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THE TIMES

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Team bonuses kick profits

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DRINK, SLEEP AND YOUR WEIGHT

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

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'What counts is what works'

Blair drops opposition to privatisation

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR formally tore up his party's longstanding opposition to the sale of public assets yesterday, provoking misgivings within old Labour and derision from the Conservatives.

The Labour leader told a City audience: "It is the public interest that is important. What counts is what works." The presumption should be that economic activity was best left to the private sector.

But Mr Blair and his colleagues were branded a bunch of "unprincipled scoundrels" by Kenneth Clarke as the Tories stepped up their claims that Labour would say anything to get elected.

Their attacks increased when Gordon Brown confirmed that Labour had an "open mind" about the £500 million privatisation of the air traffic control system — even though the party's transport spokesman had insisted last October that "our air is not for sale".

And although most leftwingers remained silent, their lack of enthusiasm for Mr Blair's conversion to privatisation was apparent in some interviews. Barry Reamsbottom, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, said that he would put "powerful arguments" to Mr Brown over the sale of the air traffic system.

John Monks, General Secretary of the TUC, seemed to be playing down Labour's shift when he told *The World at One* on BBC Radio that he would not expect a Labour government to follow the Conservatives, who were "clearing out every potentially lucrative bit of the public sector".

Margaret Beckett, the industry spokeswoman who is one of the few leftwingers in the Shadow Cabinet, described Mr Blair's remarks as "unexceptional, reasonable and sensible". She described suggestions of a mass sell-off as wild fantasy and said that Mr Brown's pledge to look at the sale of land and property held by government departments was not privatisation, but proper management.

Mr Brown's claims that he could raise big sums from a swift inventory of such property were rejected as a red herring by Mr Clarke, who described his shadow as "frankly not up to the job of being Chancellor". Asset sales were already accounted for in government spending plans, Mr Clarke said.

It is understood that in the current financial year there will be some £4 billion of asset sales, including money from the sale of student loan debt, Defence Ministry married quarters and Department of Social Security offices.

Mr Clarke said: "We have succeeded in showing that Labour are a bunch of unprincipled scoundrels. They have no conviction. They will say anything to get elected. The Labour movement is being led by the nose to ever more startling declarations of policy changes."

Mr Blair and his colleagues were unrepentant, claiming that the revision of Clause 4 had paved the way to embracing the private sector. However, there was no hint in the manifesto that Labour would consider privatisating services and industries such as the air traffic system. Parcelforce, Channel Four and other possible candidates mentioned over the past few days.

In his City speech, Mr Blair insisted that there should be no dogmatic belief that either the private or public sector was better. Labour now carefully balanced its commitment to social justice with the commitment to a strong enterprise economy, he said.

"I certainly believe that where there is no overriding reason for preferring the public provision of goods and services — particularly where those services operate in a competitive market — then the presumption should be that economic activity is best left to the private sector with market forces being fully encouraged to operate."

ELECTION 97

"If Francis of Assisi were to stand for Tatton, he would find himself under press suspicion"

Matthew Parris, page 7

"If you have taken a morale bash in the morning it is important to have a good lunch"

Nicholas Soames on the campaign trail, page 8

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PETER NICHOLLS



Jockey Tony Dobbin and Lord Gyllene are given a police horse escort to the winners' enclosure yesterday after winning the Grand National

Delay fails to dampen National triumph

BY CAROL MIDGLEY AND RUSSELL JENKINS

THE 150th Grand National went ahead two days late yesterday after being abandoned on Saturday because of two IRA bomb scares.

John Major, who arrived by helicopter for an unscheduled visit to the Merseyside course and the Princess Royal, who was caught up in the weekend chaos, watched Lord Gyllene, ridden by Tony Dobbin, win by 25 lengths, at 14-1.

After the race the jockeys, who were applauded by 20,000 punters allowed in free, raised their hands and clapped in return. Aintree veterans said they had never heard a louder roar from the stands than when the first horse passed the winning post.

Punters, many of whom had not been able to afford to visit Aintree before, queued for hours to gain entry. At one point the line stretched as far as Walton, the neighbouring town. Many from other parts of the country had stayed on Merseyside since Saturday to see the race. Massive security surrounded the event.

The Prime Minister, who interrupted his election campaign to drop in at Aintree, said: "This is a message. No one can bomb the British people out of their habits and traditions."

The 24-year-old winning jockey, who comes from Downpatrick, Co Down, described his victory as "the best moment of my life so far."

Lord Gyllene was trained by Steve Brookshaw, a former amateur jockey. His father, Peter, won a race at Aintree in 1950 and his brother trained a big winner at the Cheltenham Festival in 1984. His late uncle Tim, a champion jump jockey in the 1950s, once finished second at Aintree on Wyndburgh, riding the final third of the course without a saddle. But in 1963 he was paralysed in a fall at the National course.

Winning owner Stan Clarke, 63, chairman of Newcastle and Uttoxeter racecourses, bought Lord Gyllene after seeing a videotape of him race when the New Zealand-bred horse was still in his home country.

Leading article, page 17
Reports, pages 44 and 48

Hamiltons dismiss Bell as a stooge

BY RUSSELL JENKINS AND ANDREW PIERCE

NEIL HAMILTON and his wife, Christine, promised to fight on yesterday after Martin Bell entered the election campaign with a pledge to draw the poison from public life.

Minutes after Mr Bell predicted that Mr Hamilton would stand down within 24 hours, the couple appeared on their doorstep to denounce the BBC foreign correspondent as a Labour stooge.

And in the face of polls suggesting Mr Bell could defeat Mr Hamilton in the Tories fifth safest seat, the Tatton Conservative Association issued a statement promising solid support for the MP, who faces his adoption meeting tonight. It appeared that Mr Bell's appearance had hardened opinion in favour of Mr Hamilton among Tory activists. Many of the association's 1,500 members seem to resent the arrival on the scene of a household name and earlier promises of a secret ballot tonight were being reviewed by local officers.

Tory officials in London, accepting that only the Tatton association could force Mr Hamilton's removal, were meanwhile fearful that the high-profile contest would be a constant reminder during the campaign of the sleaze allegations that have dogged the Government for years.

At a packed press conference in central London, the veteran war correspondent, looking nervous and dressed in his trademark white suit,

Continued on page 2, col 4



"I call him Hamilton because I can never get him to come down"

'Goldfinger' Palmer detained by police

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

DETECTIVES were last night questioning John "Goldfinger" Palmer, who built up a fortune after being acquitted of melting down gold bars from Britain's biggest bullion robbery. Christine Ketley, 36, his girlfriend was also arrested.

Officers from Scotland Yard's organised crime squad were interviewing Mr Palmer, 47, over an alleged £25-million timeshare fraud involving as many as 10,000 victims. He was arrested after going to Holborn police station in central London with his solicitor.

Mr Palmer, a jeweller and gold dealer, was cleared ten years ago of handling gold bars stolen in the £26-million Brink's Mat robbery near Heathrow Airport in 1983. Part of that haul was found to have been melted down in a private furnace at his Bath mansion. He left the country but was arrested and tried when he returned. He was cleared of the Brink's Mat charges after the jury accepted that he did not know where the gold came from.

He had been accused of playing a key role in converting part of the Brink's Mat haul from gold into cash by melting it down with a quantity of copper in order to disguise its purity. He was also charged with arranging for the metal to be given a new hallmark and of selling it on the legitimate gold market described as jewellers' scrap.

This week Mr Palmer was ranked at number 51 in *The Sunday Times* guide to Britain's 1,000 richest people. The newspaper said his fortune was estimated at £300 million from his Tenerife timeshare business and other interests.

Africa 'is facing air catastrophe'

South African airline pilots — backed by the International Federation of Airline Pilots' Associations — have again issued a warning about the likelihood of "catastrophic accidents" in African airspace caused by the breakdown of air traffic control systems across the continent... Page 12

Hopes of orgasm pill for women

Scientists are holding out the prospect of an orgasm pill for women after discovering the chemical that tells the brain about sexual arousal. The drug, which could be available within 12 years, could also be used as a painkiller ..... Page 3

Pound surges

The pound surged past its old European exchange-rate mechanism floor yesterday, reaching its highest level since it left..... Page 25

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$31 million is merchant bank's sweetener for Sugar

BY RICHARD THOMSON AND JON ASHWORTH

AN EXECUTIVE at Salomon Brothers in London was paid $31 million (£19 million) last year.

Shigeru Myojin, known as "Sugar" to his colleagues, runs Salomon's proprietary trading and risk management operations, in which the bank bets its own money in the financial markets. He has been earning vast sums for years, but managed to avoid the limelight until he joined the board in 1995, allowing details of his income to be laid bare.

The flamboyant 47-year-old trader drives a Ferrari and has been known to ride a bicycle around the dealing room. He occasionally appears at the bank's offices above Victoria Station wearing a US Army helmet and wielding a baseball bat.

His pay packet includes $520,000 in salary, $10 million bonus, $2.06 million in shares, and $18.8 million in deferred payments — far outstripping the $11.5 million paid to Deryck Maughan, who runs Salomon's worldwide operations.

A surge in merger activity has guaranteed huge bonuses in the City — a trend criticised by the Bank of England as a "one-way bet". Warren Buffett, who owns 9.4 per cent of Salomon, has also tried to turn the tide. In the early 1990s, he attempted to cut what he regarded as the vastly inflated salaries for which Salomon had become famous. But more than 50 executives resigned, and Mr Buffett had to return to the old pay scales.

Mr Myojin, born in Nagoya, Japan, has spent all his working life in London since graduating from university in Tokyo in 1973. In 1991, he made Salomon $450 million — nearly half of its pre-tax profits. In 1994, he was paid $20 million and announced that he was retiring. But he changed his mind when offered a directorship.

He is still not the world's best-paid investment banker, however. Joe Roby, head of the Wall Street firm Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette, received $33 million last year.

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Butchers say new E. coli rules will close shops

Report expected to recommend strict separation of raw and cooked meat

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY AND SHIRLEY ENGLISH

MANY of the 12,000 small butcher's shops may close because of new regulations expected today in the report on the *E. coli* epidemic, it was claimed yesterday.

The National Federation of Meat and Food Traders, which represents 3,000 butchers, said new safeguards could prove too expensive for a large number of small businesses. The report is also expected to be critical of government delays in implementing food safety guidelines, and to recommend tougher hygiene standards for abattoirs and farmers.

Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, will unveil the report this afternoon. It will broadly retain the interim recommendations issued in January by the committee of inquiry chaired by Hugh Pennington, a microbiologist at Aberdeen University.

An important recommendation was the separation of raw and cooked products, with different staff, counters, refrigerators and cutting equipment. A new licensing system for shops was also suggested.

The final report is expected to soften the recommendation on separate staff, saying this should be achieved "wherever possible" rather than being mandatory.

Cross-contamination between fresh and cooked meat is thought to have been the main cause of the most serious of the *E. coli* outbreaks, which claimed 18 lives and affected more than 400 people in Lanarkshire. Three other people have been killed by *E. coli* recently.

John Fuller, director of the National Federation of Meat and Food Traders, said: "Small butcher's shops do not have the financial resources to fund extra staff and do not have the space to accommodate separate counters and refrigerators for fresh and cooked meat."

Gavin Strang, the Shadow Agriculture Minister, said the *E. coli* outbreaks and BSE presented an "unanswerable case" for an independent Food Safety Agency. Dr Strang accused the Government of failing to enforce food safety regulations and of "running down" food safety research.

Professor Pennington is expected to emphasise the need for animals to be clean before slaughter. *E. coli* is found in the stomach and intestines of livestock and can be present in faeces and urine.

The interim report made only passing reference to the possible role of poor hygiene in abattoirs. But at that time Professor Pennington was unaware of a damning report on abattoir conditions compiled in 1995 by the Meat Hygiene Service. The report, never published in full, was disclosed only last month.

Ann Foster, director of the Scottish Consumer Council and a member of Professor Pennington's committee, said: "Attempting to get consistently high standards in abattoirs, where the initial contamination takes place, will be a central issue of our report."

Supermarkets yesterday said they would be willing to review hygiene procedures for raw and cooked meat although they considered their existing safeguards sufficient to eliminate risk of cross-contamination.

A Sainsbury's spokesman said: "All our staff already use separate utensils and weighing equipment and wash their hands between operations. There are some stores where bacon and sausages are sold from the delicatessen counter alongside cooked meats, and we would always be willing to review procedures in the light of expert opinion."

Tesco said fresh and cooked meat counters were partitioned rather than separate and refrigerators were compartmentalised. "We believe that our existing procedures are enough to ensure there is no risk of contamination," a spokesman said.

"If the final Pennington report recommends total physical separation of staff and equipment, we would have to comply, but it would add to costs."

Archbishops appeal for church arson attacks to end

BY NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

RELIGIOUS leaders in Northern Ireland united yesterday in condemnation of loyalist arsonists after another Roman Catholic church was badly damaged.

The 226-year-old Church of the Immaculate Conception at Mullavilly, Co Armagh, was the fifth Catholic church to be attacked in less than a week. Archbishop Robin Eames, Primate of the Church of Ireland, visited the ruins of the small church to commiserate with Archbishop Sean Brady, the Roman Catholic Primate of All Ireland.

Dr Eames described the attack as a symbol of "naked, corrosive sectarianism". He said: "I would urge everyone who has any leadership that now is the time when Northern Ireland needs voices of vision ... if these attacks continue our society will be dragged into a new nightmare of division and suffering."

Dr Brady urged against retaliation. "I am sad, shocked and angry at this attack on a peaceful community, where the people are devastated. But we are heartened by the support and the sympathy offered by people from all sides of the community. Many came here to express their revulsion and that is a heartening sign."

Within hours a Church of Ireland hall at Dungiven, Co Londonderry, was damaged when a furniture store outside was set ablaze. The hall was shortly to reopen after being damaged in an attack last year.

At the weekend arsonists destroyed one Catholic church in Co Antrim and damaged another near by. A Baptist church building in east Belfast was destroyed last week, and a Church of Ireland hall in Co Tyrone was damaged.

Father Kieran MacOscar, parish priest at Mullavilly, was told about the fire by a parishioner who woke him in the early hours yesterday. He said: "Our church is completely destroyed; only four walls remain."

The Rev Brian Harper, the local Church of Ireland rector, who lives close to the church, was appalled by the attack. "There is no way the Protestant community here would want anything like this. It will only serve to strengthen local community relations. When disasters like this happen everyone binds together."

Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, compared the arsonists to the Klu Klux Klan. Speaking after visiting the church, which is in the Newry and Armagh constituency he has represented for 11 years, Mr Mallon said: "I feel sadness and anger that a small community like this should be subjected once again to this sectarian bigotry."

PAUL McERLANE/AP



Archbishop Brady, left, visiting the burnt-out church at Mullavilly yesterday with Father Kieran MacOscar

M6 bombs contained 4lb of Semtex

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

TWO bombs planted under the M6 by the IRA each contained 2lb of commercial explosives which, if detonated, would have caused extensive damage to the road. The devices, which failed to explode, brought chaos to the busiest section of road in Europe last week and caused widespread traffic disruption across the Midlands.

Police said yesterday that the explosive was probably Semtex. One of the bombs was attached to a support column of the M6 near Bescot. If it had exploded it would have caused extensive damage to the column and the motorway would have had to be closed for repair work.

Anti-terrorist officers have also traced the telephone box from which the IRA terrorists made calls to two hotels in Walsall, warning that a bomb would explode under the motorway on Thursday. Bob Packham, Assistant Chief Constable (Crime) in the West Midlands, said: "We now believe that the telephone calls, which have now been claimed by the IRA, were made from telephone boxes in Manzoni Gardens, near Birmingham New Street station."

Police yesterday interviewed people in the area around Manzoni Gardens and forensic experts have searched the telephone boxes. The calls were made at 8am on Thursday. Mr Packham said: "We have already had interview teams looking for witnesses this morning. I am appealing to anyone who was in that vicinity last Thursday morning to contact police immediately."

He said that the public needed to remain vigilant and to report anything suspicous to the police. He warned: "Terrorism can take many forms."

Police declined to confirm whether they believe the same people are responsible for the recent spate of terrorist incidents, including the hoax call which forced the abandonment of the Grand National on Saturday and the bomb explosions at Wilmslow in Cheshire.

Leading article, page 17

Fire risk to countryside

BY NICK NUTTALL

MORE than a hundred firemen battled a blaze that affected 60 acres of forest and heathland in Berskhire yesterday, triggering concern that beauty spots across the country could face serious damage from the dry conditions.

Fire crews faced difficulties in containing the fire at Crowthorne, near Broadmoor hospital, because of problems in getting water appliances into the woods. They used firebreaks to control the flames, which were being fanned by strong winds. The fire, believed to have been started by a discarded cigarette, was brought under control late yesterday afternoon.

The fire, believed to be the first sizeable one in England this year, comes after the driest two-year period on record. Firefighters were also called to Yarner Wood nature reserve, near Bovey Tracey, Devon, yesterday. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds urged the public to be careful with matches and cigarettes. It said heathland wildlife, including birds such as nighjars and Dartford warblers, were vulnerable.

The warning came as farmers in Essex claimed the dry conditions were threatening their barley and wheat crop. On the Clacton peninsula less than half a millimetre of rain has fallen recently.

Forecast, page 24

Hamiltons dismiss Bell

Continued from page 1

said he was responding to the wishes of ordinary people by standing.

Mr Bell, 58, did not expect the contest to go the distance and he predicted that Mr Hamilton would be out of the race by tomorrow. He would then stand down. "My belief is that I am the shortest-lived political candidate with the shortest-lived political career you will ever see and by Wednesday morning it will all be over," he said. However, he promised that he would serve his full term as an MP if elected, although he would "rather dodge bullets in sniper's alley in Bosnia" than fight the election campaign.

Minutes later Mrs Hamilton, accompanied by her husband and their friend the *Coronation Street* actor William Roache, told reporters outside her Cheshire home: "If you think we are going to chicken out three-and-a-half weeks before polling day, you are all mad.

"We have stood shoulder to shoulder fighting in this constituency and it is a complete nonsense for Martin Bell to flip in here and think he can win. The reason I am speaking is that Neil cannot speak to the cameras due to the Representation of the People Act.

"Martin Bell has nothing whatsoever to do with Tatton ... Why should my husband stand down when he is totally innocent? This is all because Liberal and Labour don't want to talk about the real issues."

NEWS IN BRIEF

WPC accuses bosses of sex harassment

A policewoman suffered a three-year campaign of sexual and verbal harassment from her superiors intended to drive her out of the force, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

WPC Sharron Empson, 34, who is now on extended sick leave from her job at Doncaster, was targeted by five officers "whose intention was to rid the force of this officer by hook or by crook" said her solicitor, Tina Martin. "There was an unwritten policy against this applicant."

Louise Varty, a solicitor for South Yorkshire Police, said: "These are individual acts, disparate and committed by different people. What is alleged cannot be interpreted as a policy or practice." Alan Simpson, the tribunal chairman, dismissed all but three of the allegations saying they had been made outside the permitted three-month time limit. He said: "There is no common thread between those acts. She believes there was a policy to get rid of her but she could not identify the common thread." The remaining allegations will be heard at a resumed tribunal at a date to be set.

Surgeon attacks Evans

Chris Evans, the media celebrity, has been accused of inciting his fans to make fun of people less attractive than themselves. Professor Duncan McGrouther, a plastic surgeon, says Evans' "Ugly Bloke" slot on his *TFI Friday* show demonstrates how people can be encouraged to pick on the disfigured. Writing in the *British Medical Journal*, Professor McGrouther, of University College, says pressure to conform to a "look" diminishes the value of those who fail to measure up to it. "Incitement to pick on the disfigured is widespread — Chris Evans' Ugly Bloke feature is a gross example. Were film-makers to tackle race or sex in the way they tackle beauty or ugliness they would be prosecuted."

Prince returns in peace

The Duke of York will return to the cruise liner *Canberra* in Southampton today for the first time since he landed his helicopter on the deck of the ship during the Falklands War. The Duke, who 15 years ago was a Royal Navy helicopter pilot flying in support of the task force, will be among 350 guests at a dinner on board *Canberra*. The dinner is being hosted by Lord Sterling of Plaistow, the P&O chairman, and is being held to commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the commissioning of *Canberra* and five other P&O ships for the Falklands campaign. After the dinner, Lord Lewin, Admiral of the Fleet, and Baroness Thatcher will speak.

Pilot error caused crash

Pilot error was to blame for the mid-air collision of two £20 million RAF Tornado jets in a training attack soon after take-off from RAF Coningsby, Lincolnshire, in January 1996, the crash report said yesterday. An experienced fighter pilot, who was converting to the Tornado F3 jet, locked his radar on to a second, "enemy", Tornado. But he descended out of his 12,000ft "height box" before making visual contact and glimpsed the second Tornado only half a second before impact. The "enemy" pilot also overestimated the distance to the other aircraft. Two of the aircrew were seriously injured; the other two suffered minor injuries.

Quarry murder charge

A man was charged yesterday with the murder of Louise Smith, 18, whose naked body was found in a stone quarry at Yate, near Bristol. An Avon and Somerset police spokesman said: "A 21-year-old man has been charged with her murder and a serious sex assault which arises from the same incident. He has been detained overnight in custody."

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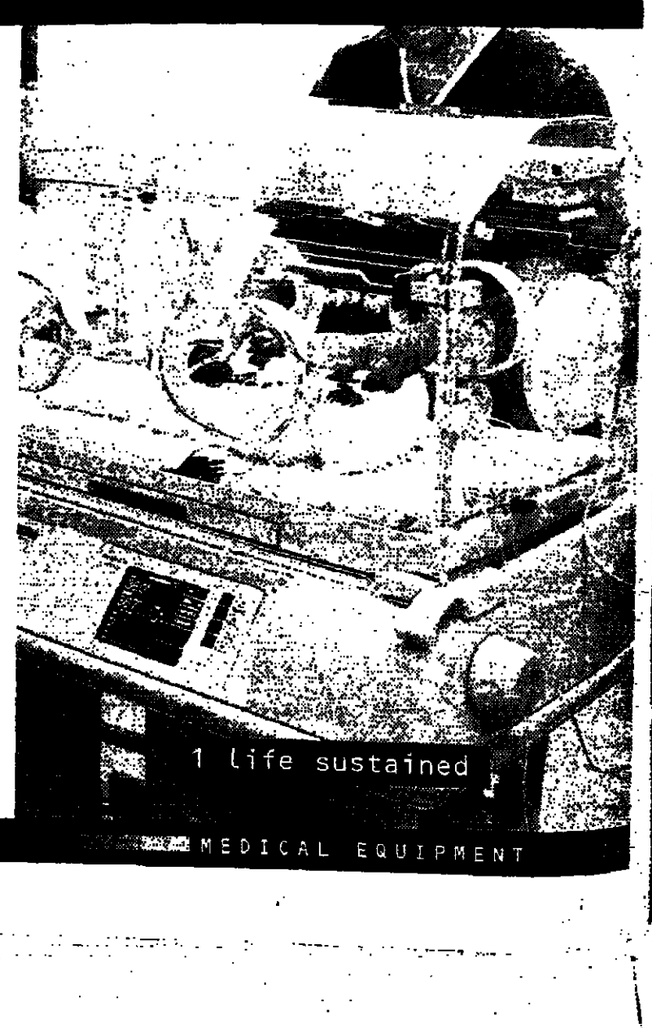
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Minicab driver jailed for series of sex attacks on lone women

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

A MINICAB driver was jailed yesterday for 14 years for a series of sex attacks on women that he made after he had driven them home.

Over four years Devis Barthram chose to assault single women who were young, living alone and not in a relationship. In 1987 he had been jailed for 18 months for assaulting a woman while posing as a jogger.

Barthram admitted attacking four women but police suspect he could be responsible for other offences committed against women.

Judge Denison, Common Serjeant of London, told Barthram at the Old Bailey: "Over four and a half years you used your employment as a minicab driver to identify women who lived alone and then sexually assaulted them. The effects are appallingly serious and in most cases very long lasting. Some of your victims may never completely recover from the effects of your activities."

Barthram, 34, of Hainault in Essex, admitted one rape, three indecent assaults and a burglary. He had originally faced another charge of rape and other indecent assaults, which he had denied. The Crown Prosecution Service did not proceed with those charges, which included an attack on a 15-year-old girl.

John Black, for the prosecution, said that three women had positively identified Barthram as the man who had broken into their homes and attacked them while they slept. He said that after Barthram's pleas it would not be in the public interest to try him for the offences, as this would only put the women through the harrowing ordeal of giving evidence in public.

Barthram was caught after indecent phone calls were traced to his home.

In January 1991, while working with Redbridge Radio cars in east London, he singled out a secretary, aged 22, from Walthamstow in east London. As she returned from work, Barthram attacked her from behind, pushed her through her front door and warned her: "If you scream, I'll kill you".



Barthram: threatened to kill his victims

> I know where you live. If you tell anyone, I will come and get you

She was crying and frozen with fear before Barthram raped her. As he left her house, he said: "I know where you live. If you tell anyone, I will come and get you." The woman still suffers nightmares.

In 1993 he attacked a sales assistant, aged 25, in her home at Wanstead, Essex. He leapt on her bed, put his hand over her mouth and told her he was armed with a knife. The woman was then stripped naked. Judge Denison was told that the woman has been traumatised by her ordeal and was now terrified of the slightest noise.

In December 1994, Barthram attacked a hairdresser, aged 25, living in a ground-floor flat in Ilford, Essex. She had left her patio door open for her cat and was asleep on her sofa. Barthram, who was wearing a hood over his head, put his hand on her mouth and told her to "keep quiet". The woman managed to fight off Barthram. After more than two years, she was still unable to sleep properly at nights.

Four months later Barthram attacked a dress designer, aged 26, in her home at Woodford, Essex. He pinned her down on her bed but she fought back and he ran off, stealing some of her underwear.

Ronald Thwaites, QC, mitigating, said Barthram was now friendless and full of and self-loathing. He had been deserted by his girlfriend and child.

Outside the court, Detective Constable Tony Crofts said that police believed that Barthram carried out long-term surveillance on his victims. "He knew who these women were. He knew their habits. He knew exactly what their movements were and waited his opportunity. It is a terrifying thought for any woman," he said.

The Public Carriage Office licenses all drivers of black taxis in London and during the application process police check if an applicant has a criminal record. There is no screening of people driving minicabs, as they are unlicensed.

Under the Police Bill, which received the Royal Assent last month, a Criminal Records Agency is to be created. An employer will be able to ask a job applicant to provide a criminal conviction certificate, which will show information about unspent convictions.

Oasis star has his morning glory in private

BY BILL FROST

LIAM GALLAGHER and Patsy Kensit, Britpop's most turbulent couple, rose early yesterday hoping to end a media feeding frenzy over their stormy courtship and begin a new life together as man and wife.

The Oasis singer — who shares an estimated £40 million fortune with his brother Noel — and the actress went through a simple marriage ceremony at Westminster Register Office in Marylebone Road at about 8.30am. The only guests present were the witnesses, friends named as Colin Radcliffe and Mr F. Graham.

Gallagher's brother and fellow band member Noel was fast asleep when the marriage took place. Appearing outside his house in Belsize Park, north London, he congratulated the newlyweds. "It is brilliant, really great. But it was really too early. I wasn't there. I was in bed," he said.

The marriage certificate stated that Liam John Paul Gallagher, 24, "a bachelor and musician of 8 St John's Wood Terrace," had married Patricia Jude Francis [sic] Kensit. She gave her age as 29 and listed her profession as actress. She lives at the same address as Mr Gallagher. The certificate said her previous marriage, to Jim Kerr, singer with the band Simple Minds, in 1992, had been dissolved. The marriage lasted four years.

"Liam and Patsy did not invite any friends or family to the ceremony," the band's record company said. "Nor will there be a party or honeymoon because the couple are too busy. It was totally, totally private with just them and the registrar. They chose that office because it is the appropriate one of the area in which they live."

This is Ms Kensit's third marriage — she wed Dan Donovan from the band Big Audio Dynamite in Scarborough, North Yorkshire, in 1988. The marriage lasted three months.

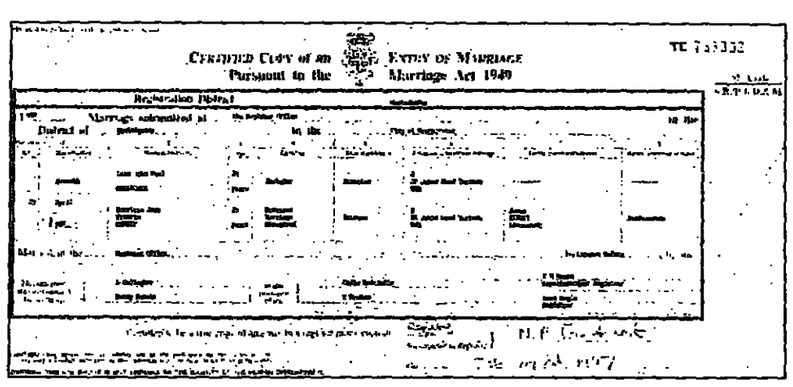
The groom's family agreed to stay away "to prevent the news leaking out". Peggy Gallagher, his mother, said: "When Liam rang this morning and said he and Patsy were married, I was just delighted. He told me he was happy and he hoped that I would be happy for them. I said, 'As long as you're happy then I'm happy'. Both of them seemed over the moon. All I can say is good luck to them. I hope it will all turn out well for them."

Katharine Mason, the superintendent registrar, described yesterday's ceremony as "very private and very personal". She refused to give details of the bride's dress or the couple's rings, saying she had been sworn to secrecy. "We would do the same thing for any couple. I just dealt with them myself and didn't let anyone else know about it — even my husband.

"They were overjoyed that they managed to get away without any photographers seeing them, or any bother. They simply wanted to make a commitment to each other without any hassle," she said.



Liam Gallagher and Patsy Kensit, top, whose marriage was conducted by Katherine Mason, below right


CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF MARRIAGE
Pursuant to the Marriage Act 1949



Meanwhile, a punter from Telford who staked £140 on the couple to marry during 1997 at odds of 3/1 yesterday made a profit of £420.

Hill's are now offering odds of 5/4 for the Gallaghers to still be married at the turn of the century, and 50/1 that they will celebrate their golden anniversary.

Officer held hostage in escape wins £¼m award

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE Home Office yesterday agreed to pay almost £¼ million damages to a former prison officer who was attacked by a prisoner downgraded to a lower security rating so he could be transported in a minibus instead of a secure prison van.

While supervising prisoners being moved from Leeds to Durham in 1990, Sidney Birchall was pinned on the floor of the minibus and forced to surrender the handcuff keys with a shard of pottery held to his neck.

York County Court was told that Mr Birchall, 47, suffered post-traumatic stress disorder and has been unable to work. Yesterday the Home Office admitted liability and agreed to pay £245,000 damages in an out-of-court settlement.

Mr Birchall said that he had requested a secure vehicle when he learned one of the prisoners was an armed robber and classified as a potential escaper, but was told that none was available. Instead the prisoner was reclassified.

Mr Birchall was held hostage until the prisoners abandoned the minibus and hijacked a car. He chased them and later they were caught by police. His solicitor yesterday said no amount of damages could compensate for his experience.

Husband strangled wife denied bed in mental hospital

BY LIN JENKINS

A DEVOTED husband who endured 30 years of his wife's manic depression and strangled her days after she was refused admission to a mental hospital was jailed for four years yesterday.

Canterbury Crown Court was told that it would not be in the public interest to seek a murder conviction after John Clark, 59, a Kent County Council highways inspector, admitted manslaughter on grounds of provocation.

Clark told police after he killed his wife, Mary, 52, that he was at his wits' end from lack of support from the authorities. He said he had continued his 33-year marriage because he had wed "for better or worse".

In October 1995 the couple spent a morning gardening, ate Sunday lunch at their home in Sevenoaks, Kent, and had planned a trip to Penshurst Place, an historic house. Clark was anxious about the visit because his wife's illness made her prone to mood swings and violence, and she appeared to sense that.

He told police: "She came at me with her hand out. She grabbed me by the mouth. Her hand was like a claw. I bit her finger and she yelped, and pulled it out.

"She was flailing and lashing. I grabbed her around the neck. I was amazed, within a few seconds she was floppy. I thought she was goating. She had gone all limp so I straightened her out and I said, 'Come on, you are all right', but then I saw she wasn't and I couldn't feel a pulse."

When an ambulance crew arrived Clark said: "She came at me and I squeezed her throat. She is a manic depressive. I cannot put up with any more. I have had enough."

Three days earlier he had taken his wife to Pembury Hospital after a community psychiatric nurse had advised admission, but more senior medical advice disagreed. In the year before her death Mrs Clark had been admitted to a psychiatric ward twice as a sectioned patient and once voluntarily. Her illness made her abusive, aggressive, hyperactive and incoherent.

Andrew Patience, QC, for the prosecution, said: "She didn't do such things because she liked it but because she was a prisoner of her own illness. The defendant remained loyal throughout all these years having clearly much to put up with."

Nicholas Valios, QC, for the defence, said Clark could not believe his wife had died. "He was deeply in love with his wife. He still misses her greatly and despite the history he would never have a wrong thing said about her."

Telephone suitor is jailed for persistence

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A REJECTED suitor who thought love should last for ever telephoned his former university sweetheart 142 times in a day. Nicholas Collier played music and spouted poetry in the unwelcome calls.

Yesterday Collier, 22, was jailed for two months for his remorseless campaign to win back the affections of Olivia Shaw, 21. At Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, central London, he admitted six charges of making nuisance calls to cause annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety.

Collier, of Kensington, West London, was said to have a privileged, public-school background, but his parents were divorced. A relationship with Miss Shaw at Bradford University ended after eight months. Two weeks later, he started phoning her at her parents' home in Kent and at her student accommodation to get her to agree to a reconciliation.

After three months, she contacted police. In a statement, she said: "Nicholas has made hundreds of calls at all hours. The distress affected my work and my life."

Collier told police: "I just keep calling her because she knows deep down in her soul that we're connected."

Lover boy threatened by 'thrill pill'

FROM QUENTIN LETTS
IN NEW YORK

MEN, already facing redundancy in the reproduction department because of cloning, could be rendered completely superfluous by a female orgasm pill.

Two scientists from Rutgers University in New Jersey have discovered the body chemical that transmits word of sexual arousal to the female brain. Within 12 years vasoactive intestinal peptide could be available in pill form.

Beverly Whipple and Barry Komisaruk found that orgasms can be transmitted to the brain by the wide-ranging vagus nerve as well as the spinal cord. They made their discovery while studying a group of women who had been paralysed by back injuries.

Spinal injury victims were thought to be incapable of having orgasms, but the Rutgers researchers found otherwise. "Contrary to what people may think, we discovered that women in the study who were paralysed and had no feeling below the chest area were, in fact, capable of having non-genital orgasm," Professor Komisaruk said.

Their experiments identified the neurotransmitter vasoactive intestinal peptide as the chemical that enabled the women to reach such a state. Professor Komisaruk, a psychologist, said that it was now possible that an orgasm drug — one New York newspaper yesterday colourfully hailed it as the "thrill pill" — could be produced, not only for the obvious reasons, but also as a painkiller: during moments of sexual arousal, the brain often ignores pain.

Development of any such pill would need prolonged investment, probably by a major pharmaceuticals company. Professor Komisaruk said. He and Professor Whipple are continuing their research, which is still at the "basic" stage, on laboratory rats.

Professor Whipple, who in 1982 wrote a well-received book, *The G-Spot and Other Recent Discoveries About Human Sexuality*, said that the research could eventually help women with neurological problems to lead healthy sex lives.

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Let poorest nations off their debts, bishops say

BY RUTH GLEDHILL

THE Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales yesterday called for action to clear the debts of poorer nations.

The bishops, at their annual post-Easter meeting in London, said: "We urge the Government to continue to press for long-term solutions which would allow these countries to achieve debt sustainability, and to press for the cancellation of the unpayable debts of the most impoverished nations."

Calling for generous application of a proposal by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund scheme, for banks and other creditors to donate cash to help resolve the debts, the bishops said: "The start of the new millennium should be a time to give hope to impoverished people, and to put behind us the mistakes of lenders and borrowers."

Rural churches pin hopes of revival on £12.5m grant

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 150 rural church buildings will benefit from £12.5 million of lottery money if a bid by the Rural Churches in Community Service to the Millennium Commission is successful. The bid is being backed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, and the Church and Community Trust, an ecumenical Christian charity aimed at keeping churches as part of their communities.

Stan Evans, director of the trust, which organised a conference in Westminster yesterday, said: "We want churches to be well-loved and well-used, to return them to their once-central role in communities."

Jane Kennedy, a trustee of the Church and Community Trust and the surveyor at Ely Cathedral, said: "The church building is often the oldest building in a rural community and carries the traditions of the past into the present and future. English Heritage and other conservation bodies recognise the need to meet contemporary requirements and respond positively to well-thought-out and sensitive proposals such as those which the bid will encourage."

One beneficiary of the funding could be the 12th-century priory of St Mary and St Blaise at Boxgrove, West Sussex. Although the priory is large, beautiful and the second-most important church in the Chichester diocese after the cathedral, it has none of the supporting staff, endowments or income enjoyed by a cathedral. Even its vicar is only part-time.

Founded by Benedictines from Normandy in 1117, the priory now serves a congregation of 180 in a village with a population of 800. Its acoustics make it popular for concert recordings but there are no office or other facilities.

The lottery money would be used to build a church hall, meeting room, and an office with desktop publishing, fax and Internet facilities. Jane Hald, a churchwarden, said: "The problem is we have this beautiful, incredible church but with no kitchen, toilet or meeting rooms and a congregation of 180. We welcome a large number of visitors each year, and if we had an office we could get a lot more out of the priory."

She said £60,000 had already been raised and £75,000 millennium funding was being sought. English Heritage gives the priory grant aid and has put Boxgrove on its pilgrim tourist trail for this year's anniversary celebrations of the arrival in England of St Augustine, the missionary sent from Rome who founded the see of Canterbury in 597.

Because the priory is a Grade I listed building, no alterations can be made. If the parish succeeds in raising sufficient funds, the proposed new buildings will be constructed on the site of an old donkey stable behind the church on the Goodwood Estate. A computer has already been donated and if the office is built, villagers will have access to it for word processing, desktop publishing and accessing the Internet. The priory is one of 168 rural churches, nearly all Church of England, which included in the bid for the lottery money which the Millennium Commission distributes. Other proposals include concert facilities at a Warwickshire church, a visitor centre at a countryside church in Cumbria, a counselling centre at a Wolverhampton church and an arts centre in Lincolnshire.

MICHAEL SCATES



Boxgrove Priory, West Sussex, founded 880 years ago. Lottery money could help modernise the facilities

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Nurse jailed for animal cruelty at pet sanctuary

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A NURSE was jailed for six months yesterday for causing unnecessary suffering to animals in her pet sanctuary.

RSPCA investigators found starving horses lying in fields, dozens of dogs crammed into a small caravan and a crippled donkey hobbling around on its ankles. One horse, Sunshine, and a dog had to be put down immediately.

Jane Nichols, 50, was banned from ever keeping animals again. The magistrates also issued a warrant without bail for the arrest of her son Kevin, 26, who failed to appear in court for sentence. He and his mother had been jointly found guilty of 11 counts of cruelty at an earlier hearing.

Nichols, who presented her own case to magistrates, still denied she had done anything wrong as she appeared for sentence. She ran her sanctuary at Cookswood, Co Durham, where she lived in a caravan in an adjoining field. The court heard that when RSPCA inspectors raided the site there were at least 30 starving dogs in one caravan.

In a nearby hut, emaciated cats were found without food and water, their litter trays overflowing. They were taken into RSPCA care.

Nichols cried in court as she said: "I have never ill-treated any animals. I used to walk all over the place to get food for them."

The RSPCA will now have to find homes for a further 40 dogs, several cats and six horses, which were being removed yesterday.



Nichols: banned from keeping animals

David Balls, chairman of the magistrates, told Nichols: "You failed to provide reasonable care for any of these animals for a long time. Yet faced with all the evidence and photographs showing how bad the animals were you continue to protest your innocence."

Michael Moreland, for the prosecution, said: "This is the worst sort of cruelty because it was sustained. It worries me that even after conviction she is still in the frame of mind where she says she has done nothing wrong. She is not a fit person to keep animals."

Inspector Ian Smith of the RSPCA said: "The sentence shows the severity of the case and we are pleased with it. As an organisation we are about £11,000 out of pocket through this. But that is our job."

Legend blamed on monkey business

BY PAUL WILKINSON

FOR more than two centuries, the citizens of Hartlepool have tried to live down the tale of a hanged monkey. Now research suggests the story was a wicked capitalist plot to smear fishermen embroiled in a dispute at the former port on Teesside.

Legend says that during the war with 18th-century revolutionary France, a French ship was wrecked off the coast. The only survivor was a monkey, dressed, in the tradition of the time, as a sailor. Fear of the Frenchies was high and, mistaking the poor animal's gibbering for an alien language, the locals hanged it as a French spy.

Aimee Jackson, a film-maker from Guisborough, a few miles down the coast, is planning a television documentary to set the record straight. She said yesterday: "There is a lengthy gap between when the hanging was supposed to have taken place and the first written record.

"The dispute between the local fishermen and the Hartlepool Dock Board became very bitter and the company used to refer to the fishermen as 'aquatic monkeys'. It might be that they developed this into the monkey tale to blacken the name of the fishermen."

Miss Jackson, 25, has turned her research into a screenplay that has attracted the attentions of Channel 4. She said: "There are other places with similar legends, including Cornwall and Scotland, which would suggest it is not a true story."

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Rich reward for staff who made life less of a chore

By Robin Young

DOROTHEA COPPING was brought up in an age when loyalty counted for something, and when she died she rewarded her faithful servants handsomely. Her housekeeper, gardener and a former chauffeur will receive a total of £175,000 from an estate valued at £545,000.

Joyce Twiddy, who cared for Mrs Copping's homes for a quarter of a century, will receive £75,000. Russell Copsey and Eric Pospischil will each receive £50,000. None of the three has yet given thought to what they will do with the gifts, which they described as totally unexpected.

Mrs Copping died in December aged 81. Her late husband, Bernard, made his fortune running Comyn, a silver and goldsmith, which supplied jewellers such as Asprey and Garrard.

The couple, who had no children, lived at Morston Hall, near Cromer, Norfolk, until Mr Copping died in 1986. Mrs Copping, who could speak nine languages, took her domestic staff with her when she moved to a six-bedroom home overlooking the sea at nearby Blakeney.



Dorothea Copping, shown in her late 20s, bequeathed £50,000 to Eric Pospischil, her husband's chauffeur

She lived quietly in the village, where she made unpublicised donations to two local churches, wrote childrens' books and worked for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Her will included bequests to a godson, her husband's god-daughter and friends in Germany.

Mrs Twiddy, of Lanham, Norfolk, said yesterday: "I worked for her daily, sometimes for the whole day and other times just a couple of hours. She was lovely to work for and I never expected her to leave me anything."

Mr Copsey, 63, worked for Mrs Copping for 18 years, tending her two-acre garden at Morston Hall and later her one-acre plot at Blakeney where he planted 7,000 tulip bulbs. He maintained three greenhouses and 650 plant pots and troughs containing her treasured petunias, fuchsias, geraniums and lilies.

Mr Copsey, who was paid £198 for a 44-hour week, also did odd jobs and exercised Mrs Copping's six Staffordshire terriers. "She was wonderful to work for. She loved her garden and always wanted fresh flowers available," he said yesterday.

"We got on well and she was good to me. She did not promise me anything when she was alive and I did not expect anything, but on her deathbed she told me how pleased she was that I had treated her as if I was her son. It is a fantastic amount of money that Mrs Copping has left me and I am really grateful."

Mr Copsey will continue tending the garden until the house, on the market for £375,000, is sold. He has also taken in an 11-year-old Staffordshire terrier, one of two dogs Mrs Copping had when she died.

Mr Pospischil, 68, of Andover, Hampshire, was Mr Copping's chauffeur for nine years until his death. He took a job elsewhere, but remained friendly with Mrs Copping and drove her in her Mercedes or her VW Passat on trips to Europe. "She would pay for the trip so it would be a break for me as well, and I did it without remuneration," Mr Pospischil said.

ALBAN DONOHOE



Russell Copsey planted 7,000 tulip bulbs for his employer, and has now given a home to one of her dogs

Three face sack after criticising bosses

By Ian Murray

THREE council employees face dismissal for gross misconduct after they were secretly recorded criticising their superiors.

The two engineers and a product development officer at Nottingham City Council were suspended the day after a tape of their lunchtime conversation was handed to the city's internal audit department. Two of them will appear before a disciplinary panel tomorrow and the third will be dealt with soon.

The recording was made last November by a client in the council's business centre, which gives help and advice to people wanting to set up small businesses and where some offices are rented out to private firms. "There were allegations of gross misconduct and we suspended the staff involved as a precaution as soon as we heard the tapes," the council said yesterday. "Since then we have been interviewing a number of clients at the business centre and heard more allegations which will be put before the disciplinary panel."

Andy Belfield, local secretary of the public services union Unison, said: "They were complaining about lack of support from their two bosses. If you suspended everyone who complained about their boss, there would be no one left at work. This tape would never be allowed in a court of law. It flies in the face of British justice."

Leader of mosque was fired after pilgrimage

By Ruth Gledhill

THE spiritual leader of a mosque is seeking £6,000 compensation for being sacked after making a seven-week pilgrimage to Mecca.

Amir Abdulla Khan was paid £520 a month from money donated by worshippers during Friday prayers at the Oxford Mosque Society, a predominantly Sunni organisation, for duties that included taking the five daily prayer sessions, teaching the Koran to children and conducting wedding ceremonies. But when Mr Khan returned from his pilgrimage in May last year, he was dismissed.

Mr Khan, 33, yesterday told an industrial tribunal at Reading, Berkshire, where he is claiming unfair dismissal, that he had fully briefed the mosque's Muslim elders that he would be making his first Haj, or pilgrimage.

Mahmud Khan Hasrat, former chairman of the society, said: "When we employ our imam we don't think he will take us to court."

The tribunal was asked to decide whether Mr Khan could be classed as an employee. Katharine Gollop, for the mosque, said that precedent meant that neither the imam nor any minister of religion was classified as an employee.

Mr Khan insisted he was an employee. "I knew if I was late I would get the sack. I am asking for fairness and what is due to me."

The hearing continues.

Canny Scots rival southern wealth

By Caroline Merrell

LOTHIAN, in the central belt of Scotland, has joined the South East as one of the richest areas in Britain, according to a survey by a market research company.

The average wealth in Lothian was £45,324, about £900 less than the average in the Greater London area. Other rich areas included Surrey, Hertfordshire and Oxfordshire. The survey by Datamonitor claimed that the average wealth per head in Britain has dropped by more than £6,000 in real terms over the last six years to £25,442.

The company puts the fall down to the drop in property prices since 1989. Wealth was judged by taking into account property, savings such as Tessas, and investments including personal equity plans and pensions. Datamonitor said the Lothian figure was boosted by Edinburgh, a traditionally wealthy city. The region has also seen the growth of high-tech companies in areas such as Livingston, bringing in well-paid jobs.

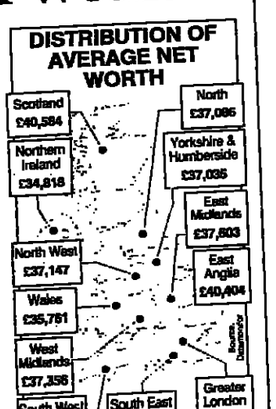
The difference in wealth between the poorest area — mid-Glamorgan at £32,512 — and the richest — Greater London at £46,176 — was 42 per cent. Other poor areas included Gwent, south Yorkshire and Durham.

The survey claims: "While inflation has been kept relatively under control, property prices have dampened the effects of a strong economy, rising wages, and better savings and borrowing attitudes, and real wealth has still failed to catch up with 1992 levels."

According to *The Rich List* published by *The Sunday Times* earlier this week, 514 of the 1,000 wealthiest people in the UK lived in the South East, 83 lived in the North West, while 1 per cent lived in Wales and 1 per cent lived in Northern Ireland.

However, Datamonitor's analysis of wealth excluding property and other non-liquid assets such as pensions and life insurance policies found an increase in wealth over the last four years. The survey found that liquid assets per head had risen from £13,430 in 1992, to £16,647 in 1996, thanks to increased savings.

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Job cuts and fare rises forecast at new rail firms

BY RICHARD DUCE AND FRASER NELSON

JOB cuts and fare rises across much of the privatised railway industry were predicted in a damning report yesterday. A looming crisis was blamed on companies who bid too high to win their franchises and could need heavy subsidies to survive.

The report for the pressure group Save Our Railways said that five of the new private rail firms were now expected to make heavy losses. City analysis of the report wiped 50p off the morning share price for Prism Rail, which runs three of the franchises. The shares later recovered enough to close about 10p down on the day. Prism said that the claims were an election stunt based on insufficient data.

The report by Tim Powell, a former transport studies director at accountants and management consultants Coopers & Lybrand, said that some firms would need to raise revenue or cut costs by as much as 20 per cent. Others were expected to make high profits because their franchise terms were "far too easy". South West Trains, which infuriated commuters by cutting services after reducing its drivers, is on course for profits of up to £500 million.

Mr Powell, whose former employers advised the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising on privatisation, identified five companies under threat as Thameslink, Thames Trains, West Anglia and Great Northern, Cardiff Railways, and South Wales and West. The report, *The Prospects for the Franchised Railway*, said these could require £250 million to £1.53 billion in extra government subsidy. The most likely figure was said to be £575 million. Five other lines were said to face difficulties — Chiltern, CrossCountry, Regional Railways North West, North London Railways and the Isle of Wight's Island Line.

Eight were tipped to make a large profit — South West Trains, Great Western, Great North Eastern (formerly East Coast Main Line), Gatwick Express, Connex South Central, Midland Main Line, LTS (London Tilbury and Southend) Rail and ScotRail. Excluding ScotRail, their combined profit was expected to be £600 million to £1.93 billion.

Mr Powell accepted that passengers would benefit from the fact that some fares are capped, but said: "Fare capping applies to about half of all fares. Some important fares are not capped at all and could increase considerably."

Keith Bill, national secretary of Save Our Railways, said: "This report is shocking news. There has been concern in the industry about the way some later franchises were let to bidders who were taking a gamble."

The report makes clear that Roger Salmon, when Franchising Director, had suggested that abnormally high profits should be recycled for the benefit of taxpayers and passengers. The Government rejected the proposal.

Rail companies dismissed the report's forecasts. The Thames Trains network between London, Oxford and Slough was said to face losing £97 million, and Thameslink, between Luton and Gatwick, was said to face losing £116 million. However, Martin Ballinger, managing director of Go-Ahead Group which runs both franchises, said the report was "absolute nonsense — if this was true, we would never have bid for the franchises. Both railways are performing better than we expected."

The report said that the Prism franchises, West Anglia and Great Northern, Cardiff Railways, and South Wales and West would lose a total of £287 million by the end of their franchise terms. Prism said the report's calculations were made without information available only to the operators, and had reckoned without investment made before privatisation. Giles Fearnley, chief executive, said: "We have to view this as a predominantly political document released to coincide with the election campaign."

Feel-good herbal drinks 'could harm consumers' health'

*A cup of tea rather than a herbal drink would make a better pick-me-up, says Health Which? **Robin Young** reports*

HERBAL drinks are no more healthy than ordinary soft drinks, according to the Consumers' Association. While they often claim positive effects, some could damage your health.

A report published today in the association's magazine *Health Which?* says people in search of a pick-me-up would be better off with a cup of tea than herbal drinks, which can cost up to £2.35 a bottle.

In a survey of what it claims to be a very profitable and growing market, *Health Which?* says that "feel-good" claims appear on all the drinks assessed. "Not all the manufacturers we spoke to could back them up," the magazine says. "Under current legislation any claim is supposed to be correct and not misleading, but the level and quality of evidence needed to support a claim is not clearly laid down, which makes enforcement difficult."

The Consumers' Association has made complaints against several brands to trading standards authorities and the Advertising Standards Authority. They include Gusto, a herbal drink claimed to "contribute to stamina and performance". *Health Which?* says that is tantamount to an illegal medicinal claim.

The association has also complained to the authority about Purdey's Gold High Energy, a brand for which the claim is: "The healthy and immediate way to feel revitalised . . . Formula of pep-you-up herbs and vitamins with complex carbohydrate for a sustained energy boost." The brand is advertised as "bottled rejuvenation".

Health Which? says that experts found the drink to contain "a hefty slug of glucose syrup", the equivalent of a Mars Bar or ten teaspoons of sugar. The herbs, including prickly ash and guaraná, the makers claim to use were potentially toxic and the expert said he was unable to understand the evidence filed by the drink's makers in support of their claims.

A nutritionist told the Consumers' Association: "If it's sustained energy you want, go for a banana. If it's refreshment, water is healthier."

Other drinks are criticised for implying that they will improve health and wellbeing. The label of Amé lists herbs and says they "soothe and enhance" but experts said the herbs would only have the effects listed if they were taken regularly and at high levels.

Orchid Drinks, which makes Amé as well as Purdey's, refused to disclose the level of herbs in the drinks. A spokesman said: "We do not believe our drinks fall into the category of a herbal or health drink. We put the benefits of the herbs contained as a source of interest for our customers. We do not see the herbs as key ingredients."

Aqua Libra, another Orchid Drinks product, is said to "help the body to maintain its natural alkaline balance". *Health Which?* says the claim is "misleading and semi-medical". The magazine says that Orchid Drinks was unable to explain why people should need their alkaline levels balancing, or how the drink would achieve that.

The aloe juice in Aloe Ginseng could be a laxative, while Rio Amazon Guarana Breeze, was a "disturbing product" which could lead to a caffeine overdose if too much was drunk.

Health Which? says: "Adding herbs to a simple sugar or fruit drink seems to turn it into a mysterious, enlivening concoction."

PICK-ME-UPS PUT TO THE TEST

WHAT better way to test the claims of herbal pick-me-ups than to swallow some and wait for the effects? In a highly subjective evaluation, Robin Young tried:



Purdey's Original: sweet

☐ **Amé £1.99 (750ml).** Fruit juice, herbs, extracts of jasmine, schizandra, ginseng and lime flower and vitamins. Rather sickly. No revitalising effect noticeable.

☐ **Purdey's Gold High Energy 99p (250ml).** Water, glucose syrup, herb extracts, vitamins. Sold in gyms, and loaded with sugar. Extremely sweet.

☐ **Purdey's Original 89p (330ml).** Water, fruit juice, herbal extracts, vitamins. Experts say the herb extracts are potentially toxic, but I would be unlikely to drink enough of this to suffer any ill-effects. As sweet as any standard cola.

☐ **Aloe Lemon £1.29 (250ml).** Apple juice, aloe vera, lemon juice. 50ml is said to be the ideal daily intake of aloe vera, but it could have been this which sent me scurrying to the lavatory only hours later.

☐ **Aloe Ginseng £1.89 (473ml).** Water, aloe vera (20 per cent), fruit juice, ginseng. Untested after experience with Aloe Lemon.

☐ **Aqua Libra £2.35 (750ml).** Fruit juice, water, botanical extracts. Disgusting taste of rotting melons.

TIM ANDERSON



Saddling up: Sindi Johnston will swap her business suits for jeans when she joins her wrangler in Arizona

City slicker rides out of town to set up home on the range

BY TIM JONES

UNTIL recently Sindi Johnston's idea of going west was a shopping trip to Harrods and lunch at an expensive restaurant. Now she leaving her £45,000-a-year job and heading for the wide open spaces of Arizona to spend the rest of her life with a cowboy who earns £2 an hour.

She will give up her flat in Baker Street, London, trips to the theatre and dinner parties to share a room behind a barn with her wrangler.

She met Rex Christensen, 50, while on holiday at the Lazy K dude ranch near Tucson last summer and returned to marry him in February. They took their vows on horseback and were married by a preacher called Tipi who lives in a shack made from bottles.

Yesterday Mrs Christensen, 37, head of a newspaper production department, described their first meeting: "He got off his horse and strode towards me. We just looked at each other. He was tall, his eyes were blue and sparkling, and something just happened that I can't explain. My heart missed a beat and I was hooked."

The couple shared dawn rides in the mountains and went dancing. Mr Christensen proposed over a meal of rocky mountain oysters, which are calves' testicles.

Mrs Christensen said: "I can't wait to get out of the rat-race and lead a simpler life. The pace of life will be slow but there will be none of the long faces you see on the Tube or in traffic jams.

"I realise I am going from rich town girl to poor country girl because all Rex owns is a saddle and a truck. But he has never worried about where the next dollar is coming from and from now on neither will I."

Mr Christensen, who ran away from school at 14 to join a rodeo, is confident that the marriage will last. "Sindi has more book learning than me but I'm educated in a backwoods way. She will fit in fine once I have taught her to ride, hunt and fish."

Chris Symington, a director of the company which organised Mrs Christensen's trip, said that ranch holidays were popular with single women. Another of her customers, in her twenties, is now living with the fiftysomething manager of a dude ranch. Ms Symington said: "This appeals to women partly because they are interested in riding and know that on the ranch they will be totally safe. But there is no denying that some of them may dream of romance."

Man drove at Asians in racist assault

A restaurant manager who drove his car on to a pavement at a group of Asians in a racially motivated attack has been ordered to serve 100 hours community service and 18 months probation by Bristol Crown Court. Matthew Kimber, 22, of Walmore Common, Gloucestershire, was banned from driving for 12 months and ordered to pay £500 compensation to Mounul Ali who was injured in the incident in Cheltenham last April. Kimber admitted dangerous driving and assault occasioning actual bodily harm.

Transatlantic call

A message in a bottle thrown into the sea off the east coast of Scotland by a young girl has turned up two years later in California. The note has led to a friendship between Sommer Cheyne, 10, and the bottle's finder, a young mother from San Diego.

CS sprays tested

Strathclyde and Tayside police forces are to test CS sprays in response to an increase in the number of assaults on officers. William Spence, Chief Constable of Tayside, said that many officers "without much stature" had to deal with very strong individuals.

Victim fined

A shopkeeper who has suffered three armed robberies and five burglaries has been fined £100 by Basingstoke magistrates for having a shotgun without a licence. Julian Perkins, 52, of Brambridge, Hampshire, said: "Crime has been made to pay."

Scots reel home

A thriller set in Glasgow and shown at film festivals all over the world has finally found a distributor to release it at home. *The Near Room*, shot in 1995, opens in 15 cinemas throughout Scotland on Friday through Metrodome Distribution.

Mary Rose raid

A drinking vessel dredged up from the site of Henry VIII's sunken flagship, *The Mary Rose*, has been stolen. The stoneware jug, worth about £5,000, was taken by raiders who forced open an exhibit case at the Southsea Castle Museum in Portsmouth.

Canary to rescue

A canary averted a possible disaster by falling off its perch. The Howes family, of Scarborough, North Yorkshire, failed to notice a gas leak after having a new fire fitted, until their pet alerted them by collapsing.

Why a tot before bedtime can become a weighty matter

MEDICAL BRIEFING

THE drunkard's "false dawn" — the sleeplessness that overtakes those who consumed too much alcohol the night before and who then wake, sweaty, after only a few, often noisy, hours of heavy sleep — is well known.

Equally familiar is the nightcap: a glass of something alcoholic, often whisky, just before going to bed so that the day's worries are forgotten and sleep becomes possible. The nightcap is an admirable formula for beating one type of insomnia but the detail needs careful consideration. The size of the tot should be large enough to induce relaxation, but not so generous that it disturbs the natural sleep rhythm.

The journal *Australian Doctor* and the British medical magazine *Monitor* have recently carried reports of a problem that can affect some people if their nightcap is too large. A drink that is not so heavy that it produces a false dawn can still be large enough to bring about a light sleep in the second half of the night. This sleep pattern may be the cause of the previously inexplicable weight gain noticed by some nightcappers. To understand why people whose nightcaps were too big were putting on weight, researchers studied people who habitually have fewer than six hours' sleep a night. They found that those who have a short night also have a higher calorie intake.

Some of these additional calories were burnt off by the activities they undertook during the extra time they had available at night, but others only served to increase the body's fat reserves.

The doctors found that people who regularly had a short night tend to have a better appetite for breakfast and that their hearty breakfast counted for much of the increase in their daily calorie intake.

It is suggested that those people whose nightcap is so heavy that it produces light sleep in the second half of the night share the problems of those who persistently had fewer than six hours' sleep a night, and that they, too, have a big breakfast which leads to them putting on weight.

Breakfast poses quite a different problem for those who have drunk so much the previous evening that they have had a false dawn. These people probably will have no appetite at all, although in order to counteract the hypoglycaemia the alcohol has produced they need a good breakfast of orange juice, porridge and some form of protein.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

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ELECTION 97

POLL DAY -24



'I'm a big breakfast man'

Nicholas Soames's eat-to-win campaign tactics – page 8

- Little Englanders?– UK Independence Party's manifesto launch – page 9
- Just what does a 'third force' mean? – p10
- Labour's dodging and weaving – Peter Riddell, page 10



'That's our MP – Edwina Hotpot'

Matthew Parris – page 11

Reluctant 'Mr Clean' heeds the call



The hero of Sarajevo is bound for Cheshire. **Charles Bremner** waves the man in the white suit off on his purgative political mission

IT'S a dirty job but someone has got to do it. That, roughly, was the word yesterday from Martin Bell, the BBC war corresponsdent, as he explained why he had reluctantly allowed himself to be talked into taking on Neil Hamilton MP and sluicing the sleaze from Tatton.

Diffident and pained, the hero of Sarajevo, was aghast at the responsibility that he said had suddenly been thrust upon him, but there came a moment when you had to answer the call of duty. "I thought a long time ago that there was something amiss in this country," he said. "Sometimes we have to get off our backsides and help people."

If the Labour and Liberal Democrat candidates formally make way for him and if Mr Hamilton is chosen tonight as Tatton's candidate, then Mr Bell will present himself as an independent "anti-corruption" candidate. He believed Mr Hamilton would desist, in which case "I am the shortest-lived political candidate with the shortest-lived political career you will ever see and by Wednesday morning it will all be over," he said. "If Hamilton chooses to withdraw that takes the S-word out of the campaign," said the BBC man, who sported the "lucky" cream suit that is his television trademark. If the former minister persisted, then Mr Bell would fight to win and would take his seat in parliament unbeholden to any party, he said.

He said he disliked the S-word, preferring to talk about corruption. On that account he felt himself to be squeaky clean. Only once had his expenses been challenged in 35 years with the BBC and that was a query last November over an Indian taxi receipt.

Mr Bell, 58, and possessor of the soft clipped tones of an earlier generation, described his accidental decision to cross the lines between celebrity journalism and politics at a press conference in Westminster. Colleagues were unsure whether they were grilling a politician or ribbing a fellow hack.

Taking the spotlight was an unnerving experience which he had never sought. "I'm scared to death," said Mr Bell, who was wounded in Sarajevo in 1992 and has spent 17 of the past 20 years abroad. "I would much rather run the trenchlines of Dobrinja, run snipers alley in my armoured vehicle Miss Piggy than this," he said. "This is one of the strangest things that has ever happened to me."

The reporter, who makes no secret of his disaffection with the BBC, said he had just returned from a trip to New York for a documentary on the United Nations chief when Tom Stoddart, the photographer and partner to Kate Hoey, the Labour MP, pressed him to stand as Tatton's "Mr Clean". After futher pressure from "high" in the Labour and Liberal Democrat parties he accepted.

The Bell campaign would take the high road, avoiding personal attacks on Mr Hamilton, but a generalised offensive against corruption, said the journalist who described himself last year as "a founder member of the get-something-done club".

Mr Bell's self-effacement was clearly struggling with the adrenalin that comes from the power game. As much as he insisted that he hated the experience, there was no disguising the pride when he quoted a poll on his candidacy in Tatton by the *Evening Standard*. "It said Hamilton 29, Bell 71."

Colleagues have not been unduly surprised by Mr Bell's leap into politics. A veteran of a dozen wars, he had "got religion", as one put it, in his long stint in Bosnia and had felt unappreciated after his return last year.

Yesterday, he spoke of his unrequited love affair with the BBC, where he began work as a news assistant in Norwich in 1962. "Up to two days ago I was cruising along towards the twilight of my career in the BBC and I had no idea this was going to happen," he said. If the political career ended, he would go back to the BBC.

Fellow journalists also vouched for the honesty of Mr Bell yesterday as above reproach, and BBC sources confirm that he had never once come under suspicion, despite working as one of an elite band of foreign correspondents notorious for "creative" expenses claims.

Mr Bell acknowledges, however, that many television reporters have made large sums through sharp practice with expenses claims.

"But those days are gone forever. As it happens I did live through them, without taking material advantage of them ... It seemed a sad obsession."

Confronted yesterday by a pack of reporters, Mr Bell said he knew Conservative Central Office would be scrutinising his past for signs of wrongdoing.

"I have looked at my cupboard and I can't think of a damn thing," he insisted.

After pledging to make available his bank accounts and tax returns to anyone who requested them, he disclosed that he had just £6,500 in the bank. Of the £11,000 he received last week from the paperback sales of his book, *In Harm's Way*, he had spent £8,000 on a secondhand car.

David McNeil, a BBC radio news presenter who worked with him in Washington, described him as a "moral man" who "played everything with a straight bat".

However, Mr Bell admits that his private life has been less successful. Divorced twice, he says he is a "hopeless romantic but I am also totally impossible to live with".

He has two daughters, Melissa, 24, and Catherine, 22, from his first marriage to French-born Nelly (Helene) Gourdon in 1971. The marriage ended in 1980 but the two remain close. Mr Bell now lives in the former family home in Hampstead Garden Suburb with Catherine, who also studies in the US.

His second marriage, to NBC reporter Rebecca Sobel in 1985, broke down over her resentment at the amount of time he spent with his daughters. He described it as: "Four years of pure disaster."

The story goes that Mr Bell once offered accommodation to an attractive and famous television correspondent and, in the darkness, she asked in a timid voice: "Martin, you're not going to jump my bones, are you?"

He replied gallantly: "No, I am not insensitive to your charms and don't want to seem indifferent to them but I have absolutely no intention of jumping your bones."

☐ *Additional reporting by Stephen Farrell, Alexandra Frean and Joanna Bale*

CHRIS HARRIS



Martin Bell during the press conference at the Institute of Civil Engineers in London where he announced his candidacy yesterday

MATTHEW PARRIS

I'D give Martin Bell a week until his character is torn to shreds. This is not because there is any defect in Mr Bell's character but because no reputation, however untarnished, is untarnishable. If St Francis of Assisi were to stand for Tatton, he would find himself under press suspicion within days

Is there nobody in Mr Bell's valiant career who is prepared to speak ill of him? If there is, the press and the Tories will seek them out. After sustained media attention, Snow White's reputation would drift — why, after all, the uncharacteristic spring in Grumpy's step? Put Max Clifford on the case of Big Ears, and bang go Noddy's chances of political stardom. Every Batman has a Robin in his closet.

Whatever interest this candidate may arouse, Britain's media professionals will not quite, in their hearts, approve. Some will be a little jealous, others, more old-fashioned, may think it unprofessional to step over the unstated line between reporting the news and making it. Most, I suspect, will derive schoolboy glee from watching a candidate whose whole platform must consist in an implicit claim to personal virtue, stumble.

As for the voters of Tatton (mostly Tory) many will see a BBC candidate as being not above politics, but of the covert Left. I'd place a small bet on Hamilton winning.

☐ Ladbrokes made Hamilton the 1-5 favourite, with Bell at 3-1 against.



Noddy: not even he would be unscathed

Media 'dirty tricks' strengthen resolve of Tatton high command

BY ANDREW PIERCE, RUSSELL JENKINS AND DOMINIC KENNEDY

MARTIN BELL'S decision to stand as an anti-sleaze candidate has made the senior Tories of Tatton keener than ever to adopt Neil Hamilton.

The Times yesterday asked members of the management committee at the Conservative association whether Mr Hamilton should fight on, did they need a secret ballot and what do they think of Martin Bell?

As the constituency prepares for tonight's formal meeting to adopt the MP, only one out of ten leading figures was anti-Hamilton.

Jan Verney, president of the constituency association, said: "Neil Hamilton should fight on. The man is innocent ... I suspect that somebody will call for a secret ballot at the meeting.

"I suppose Martin Bell will get a few votes but it's a bit rich, isn't it? We know basically this is a battle between the media and Neil Hamilton and one of you puts up."

Peter Kay, vice-president, said: "We think Neil Hamilton has been an excellent constituency MP. It is not normal to hold a secret ballot at an adoption meeting. It is to approve him and I do not believe there is any need for it.

"I honestly don't know anything about Martin Bell."

Tony Martin, the constituency treasurer, who has organised an anti-Hamilton campaign, said: "Neil Hamilton shouldn't fight on. He has lost the confidence of the electorate.

"I have had 20 phone calls this morning from people who were prepared to support me but are not going to now. Martin Bell is seen as a Lib-Lab candidate. There is a siege mentality inside the association and this considerably strengthens their resolve.

"If we are going to move it at all, a secret ballot is the only way we will."

Sue Kipling, area vice-chairman for Knutsford, said: "I support Neil Hamilton completely. We don't normally have a secret ballot but there is provision if people require it. Martin Bell is a correspondent. I believe Neil Hamilton should be the MP."

Heather Craig, a Knutsford town councillor, said: "We are 110 per cent behind Neil ... These people who are calling for a secret ballot are chicken-livered. They should stand up and be counted.

"I have my own feelings about Martin Bell. They are private."

Barbara Armitage, who represents Alderley Edge on the management committee, said: "Neil Hamilton has come this far. I cannot believe that somebody who has endured what he has gone through is not sustained by his innocence.

"I do not feel strongly one way or another about a secret ballot. I am sure Martin Bell is a super chap but it worries me that somebody could come in at this late stage."

Pauline Breland said: "Neil Hamilton is innocent until proven guilty. I will vote for him.

"Martin Bell's involvement in the campaign is further evidence of media dirty tricks. I don't care whether it is a secret ballot. Neil Hamilton will win."

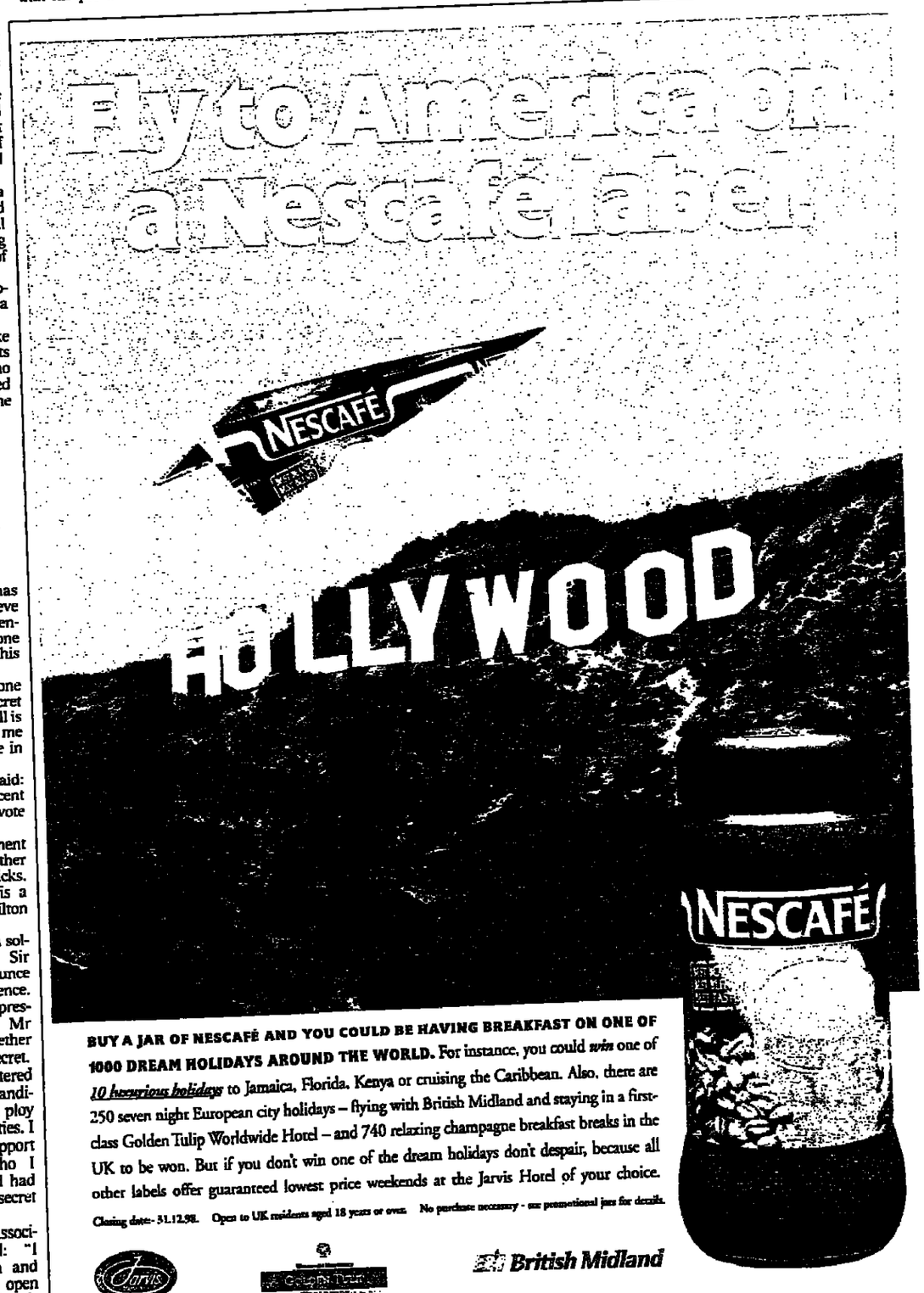
Christopher Dodson, a solicitor, said: "It is for Sir Gordon Downey to pronounce on Neil Hamilton's innocence. I am uneasy about the presence of Martin Bell." Mr Dodson did not mind whether the ballot was secret.

John Seed, a chartered accountant, said: "The candidacy of Martin Bell is a ploy by the other political parties. I think it will cement support for Neil Hamilton who I expect to win." Mr Seed had no strong views on a secret ballot.

Alan Barnes, the association chairman, said: "I support Neil Hamilton and believe it should be an open ballot because Martin Bell is just a media hack."

TATTON CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

Hundreds of Tatton Conservative Association's 1,500 members will decide Neil Hamilton's political fate tonight when they pack into a small hall behind a public house in Chelford, Cheshire. The motion to adopt Mr Hamilton is item 2 on the agenda and comes before the formal suspension of the association to conform with electoral law, an address from the candidate and a briefing on the campaign battle lines. The adoption can be changed from a simple show of hands into a secret ballot in two ways. It is within the gift of the constituency president, Jan Verney, to announce that a secret ballot will take place. Alternatively a member can propose a secret ballot, which will require a seconder and the support of a third of the audience. Ballot papers have been prepared for such a call and party agents from neighbouring constituencies are standing by to act as tellers. All fully paid up members registered with the association may attend and vote but they will have to have been members for at least 28 days to qualify. Peter McDowell, the party agent, said: "The motion is put to the meeting and it either stands or falls."



EU chiefs plan to embrace Labour at Maastricht

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS accused European leaders yesterday of preparing a special "sell-out summit" in Maastricht if Labour wins the election.

The Dutch presidency is planning a meeting next month to raise any issues that need to be considered before the inter-governmental conference in Amsterdam in June.

But the Tories claimed that they had not been invited to a May summit and argued it was being held only because European chiefs hoped that Labour would sign up to further concessions on social and employment conditions. Officials attending a two-day European Union meeting in Noordwijk, Holland, suggested that the May gathering would not be held if the Tories retained power. "We know their views already," said one official.

Labour confirmed that it had been contacted about the summit but had rejected the ideas on the grounds that there was no need to have one. "We will spell out our position at the Amsterdam summit in June," a spokesman for Tony Blair, the Labour leader, said. But David Davis, the Foreign Office Minister, said the obvious purpose of the summit would be to clear the path for the surrender of British sovereignty. "Europe is preparing a tailor-made, sell-out summit for new Labour," he stated. "It comes as no surprise that European Socialist leaders would rejoice at the prospect of a Labour victory. We have known for some time that Labour would make six surrenders of sovereignty in under six weeks. The damage to Britain would be irrevocable."

EU sources later confirmed that if a meeting had to be held it would be convened in the second half of next month, after a British election. They claimed that they had approached both the Labour and the Tory parties about possible dates. British ministers later still denied any knowledge of the proposed mini-summit.

Mr Davis insisted that Labour would sign up to a number of new directives under the Social Chapter and the Employment Chapter which would undermine labour flexiblity in Britain. Other ministers also accused Brussels of deliberately delaying publication of its social action plan till after the election. The Tories produced yesterday a shopping list from Labour MEPs which they suspected would be adopted by the European Commission. Top of the list is equality of treatment for part-time workers, a proposal that Tony Blair has only recently dropped from Labour policy. Other demands would lower the retirement age and make it more difficult for employers to sack workers.

Yesterday, the Tories also tried to exploit what they saw as a significant difference between Gordon Brown, the shadow chancellor, and Robin Cook over Labour's stance on a single currency.

On Sunday Mr Cook, the shadow foreign secretary, tried to outflank the Government by virtually ruling out a single currency in the lifetime of a Labour parliament. He said: "It is very difficult to see a government that has taken a decision that Britain wasn't ready in 1999, coming to the decision that it would be ready the next year or the year after that."

Mr Brown claimed yesterday that there had been no hardening of policy. "The policy is completely unchanged. What he's saying is that if it is postponed in 1999 and there is a chance that all countries in Europe, the principal partners will agree to postpone it, then it might be unlikely the next year and the next year."

Senior Tory sources privately expressed concern that Labour had successfully outflanked them by appearing to toughen up their position, but suggested it was too late for John Major to shift in the same direction. "He has been so firm on the 'wait and see policy' that it would now look ridiculous if he changed it," said one senior Eurosceptic.

Unionists seek deal on joint candidacy

BY NICHOLAS WATT
CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE two main Unionist parties met last night in the hope of agreeing on joint candidates in two marginal seats. Failure to agree could clear the way for Sinn Fein victories.

With just over a week until nominations close, the Ulster Unionists (UUP) and Democratic Unionists (DUP) are still at loggerheads over West Tyrone and North Belfast.

Speaking earlier, at the launch of the DUP manifesto, the Rev Ian Paisley, the party leader, said that he held out little hope of reaching agreement with David Trimble, leader of the UUP.

Despite intensive talks in recent weeks, the UUP and DUP have failed to reach agreement on the two seats because of the extremely poor relations between the leaders and between party workers on the ground. Mr Paisley and Mr Trimble can barely tolerate the sight of each other and have clashed repeatedly at the Stormont talks.

The DUP says that it will contest the new seat of West Tyrone because its opponents reneged on a deal worked out for the election to the Northern Ireland Forum last May. Under that the DUP agreed not to contest the seat in the general election if the UUP beat it in the forum election.

Although the UUP won 17.9 per cent of the vote to 16.43 per cent for the DUP, Mr Paisley called off the deal after Willie Thompson of the UUP decided not to contest the forum election. Mr Thompson is now intending to stand for the UUP in the general election.

If they fail to agreeon West Tyrone and two Unionists stand, the seat will go to either the SDLP or Sinn Fein, who respectively won 28.4 per cent and 28.1 per cent of the vote last May. Sinn Fein is already expected to recapture West Belfast and is a strong contender for Mid-Ulster.

MICHAEL POWELL



Mr Soames plumping for a hearty meal in a York fish restaurant yesterday: "It is important to have a good lunch, it makes you feel a lot better"

Fish and chips fend off Yorkshire battering

Damian Whitworth witnesses Nicholas Soames's prodigious appetite for weighty issues

NICHOLAS SOAMES yesterday outlined a hitherto underexplored strategy for Tory success: eat to win. The rallying cry was sounded when he arrived to lend heavyweight ministerial support to Simon Mallett, the Conservative candidate in the Labour marginal seat of York.

Any politician visiting the area is sensible to boast that a plate of the county's traditional fish and chips is the perfect way to round off a hard day's campaigning. Mr Soames advocated the dish as the perfect way to *start* a session of campaigning.

At noon, as the fryers at Wackers restaurant were starting to sizzle, he was smacking his lips in anticipation. After travelling up from Sussex, he had a long slog ahead and an Armed Forces minister, as every schoolchild knows, marches on his stomach.

He eyed Mr Mallett, a mere slip of a candidate, with concern. "He's a thin thing, needs feeding up," he declared. "I burn it off," protested Mr Mallett. "I eat more to compensate," retorted Mr Soames, tucking into the £6.49 Wackers Special large haddock and chips with relish.

As befits a former Second Lieutenant in the 11th Hussars, Mr Soames explained how to run a campaign with military efficiency. "One needs to take care. It requires a great deal of forward planning. And without showing off, I can say you have to work bloody hard."

He moved on to the finer details of this approach: "I'm a big breakfast man." Unfortunately, with yesterday's early start, a tactical decision had been taken to eat on the move. "I could only manage a bacon sandwich on Haywards Heath station," he said glumly.

The next stage was critical, he added. "If you have taken a morale bash in the morning, it is important to have a good lunch, it makes you feel a lot better." Once a decision to have lunch had been taken, other split-second judgments had to be made. What to eat?

"Roast beef and Yorkshire pudding is, of course, the best lunch," said Mr Soames. "But that would be overdoing it on a one-hour stop. In my view, you can't have a better lunch than fish and chips."

Additional postprandial fortification should be sought in the pub. "I went campaigning in my own constituency on Saturday and ended up with a Coldstream guardsman drinking pints of Guinness. You can't have a better end to your morning.

"I want to enjoy our general election. We are all being told that it is all terribly serious. I want to enjoy and celebrate it." Photographers gathered to take pictures of the demolition in progress. "All they want are pictures of me with my mouth open," the minister said, roaring with laughter. "I'm prepared to make a fool of myself for the party."

Lunch over, Mr Soames charged through the streets of York like a Chieftain tank. He placed a bet on the Grand National — "My brother-in-law has a helicopter and we were going to try and fly over to Aintree this afternoon, but the time didn't work" — and examined the wares of a knicker shop.

Then it was time to roll on to the next constituency, the next engagement and afternoon tea and supper, leaving Mr Mallett to reflect: "I'm probably half his weight, but a few years in Parliament and I'll put some on."



Mallett: the thin man "needs feeding up"

Tactical voters are expelled

Ten members of Lewes Labour Party have been expelled for backing tactical voting for the Liberal Democrats in a letter to a local newspaper. Tim Rathbone won the East Sussex seat for the Tories in the last vote with a 12,000 lead over the Liberal Democrats and nearly 30,000 votes ahead of Labour. In the Sheffield Hallam seat, a letter to voters from the Liberal Democrats urging Labour supporters to vote tactically has provoked a party row.

Sinking feeling

John Major's show of faith with the Grand National meant disappointment for Hampton School, southwest London, which called in pupils on holiday to meet him. The change of plans dashed a photo-call with teenage rowers to publicise the assisted places scheme.

Crime initiative

The Liberal Democrats will today unveil plans for young "city guards" to combat crime. Jobless school-leavers will be given training and paid a basic wage to remove graffiti, patrol unmanned bus and train stations and help vulnerable people to get home at night.

MP tipped

Mike Watson, MP for Glasgow Central for the past eight years, whose constituency has disappeared in boundary changes, is being tipped as the Labour candidate for Kilmarnock and Loudoun. Willie McKelvey, the sitting MP, is not standing after suffering a minor stroke.

Labour MP quits

Stuart Randall, 58, Labour MP for Hull West and Hessle for 14 years, stood down yesterday saying that he wanted to spend more time with his family. Officials will hold an emergency meeting later this week to draw up a shortlist of possible candidates.

Not a hoot

The campaign buses of Paddy Ashdown and John Major passed within hooting distance of each other at Manchester Airport. The Lib Dem vehicle — known as the "Paddy Wagon" — passed by without so much as a single insult from either bus.

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Golden oldies turn their attention to more exciting campaign of 1906

It is difficult to find much excitement in this still-born election so determined are the two main parties to dance around each other dressed in identical clothes; thus it comes as an odd pleasure to see that three times a week BBC television's *Breakfast News* is bringing together what Sir Robin Day described yesterday as three "political golden oldies" to chew the fat.

The Lords Jenkins of Hillhead and Tebbit are joined by Roy Hattersley, who is in that awkward adolescent period of political life when he is no longer a member of the House of Commons but has yet to be elevated to the House of Lords. To that extent he is the only one of the three with a stake in this general election, for he needs to put only one word out of place and his ermine may be withheld from him.

If anyone with long memories had dozed off in front of the television set late on Sunday and woken with a start yesterday morning to see our musketeers arguing the toss, they might well have concluded that they had just emerged from one of those sleeping sicknesses where patients lie in a coma while whole decades pass by.

In fact, however, this short 20 minutes of television turned out to be one of the most honest and well informed of any of the many hours of election TV broadcasting I have endured.

This amiable trio and their once irascible interviewer look like something out of the later episodes of *Star Trek*, much craggier and wrinkled than we remember them from their prime but still going through the motions. And their message was clear: this is an election, Robin, but not as we know it. This is not just a matter of today's politics not being as lively as those in the good old days: something has plainly happened to make this election a bore.



TV WATCH
NICHOLAS WAPSHOTT

If Roy Jenkins is the Captain Mainwaring of this *Dad's Army*, then Tebbit is the spiv Walker and Hattersley old Godfrey. And the captain had a couple of suggestions why this election is so dull. First, it was plain that John Major's decision to have a six-and-a-half-week election campaign was foolhardy. Secondly, this was the first election since 1983 in which the result was a foregone conclusion after the first 20 seconds, "rather like the Oxford and Cambridge boat race".

Norman Tebbit, who can rarely resist scoring a party point, said that once the leading boat in the race sank. And Jenkins, remembering no doubt his short-lived bid to become Prime Minister in 1983, replied wistfully: "And once they both sank."

Sir Robin said that he had read both manifestos and they were so similar that he had to remind himself which one he was reading. Were the two parties now too similar? Hattersley thought there was too little ideological difference between the parties and it was a terrible pity. Tebbit thought that it was all due to "the work of Margaret Thatcher" who had left so little to argue about.

And before we knew where we were, we were discussing the 1906 general election and Lord Jenkins was wagging his finger at Roy Hattersley and telling him not to forget that 30 years ago he had established his reputation as a biographer of Asquith and that "the view that Asquith was more radical than Campbell-Bannerman is an extremely interesting and exciting view, if I may say so".

Certainly more exciting than today's election, that's for sure.

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Genial don gives Britain a lecture on lone survival

Joe Joseph takes notes from the founder of the UK Independence Party

AS ALAN SKED explained rather jovially at the launch of his UK Independence Party manifesto yesterday: "Euro-scepticism doesn't *begin* to characterise my view on the European Union. We want *out!*" To Dr Sked, merely sceptic folk like Bill Cash and Sir Teddy Taylor are nestlers in the bosom of Brussels.

So what would follow withdrawal from the EU? Easy: the UKIP proposes a free-trade agreement with Europe which would leave Britain £19 billion better off. The money would be spent on a better National Health Service, stronger Nato-based defences, reduced public debt and higher income tax threshholds. And food would get cheaper since we would be paying world rather than EU-bloated prices.

It is all so logical that Dr Sked — a London School of Economics don and successful author who confesses that "I started as a gung-ho Liberal federalist, but the more I read about it, it seemed to be absolute madness" — cannot fully understand why his party is not heading for a landslide on May 1.

"Britain within a year may no longer be an independent country," claims Dr Sked, which is why his party (which has fewer than 16,000 members) is putting up at least 200 candidates on May 1. "We're confident. We're dynamic again.

"Why do we have to be *shackled to Europe*? Why should we become a backwater of a continental superstate?" Of course, when you put it like that, Dr Sked . . .

The Glaswegian academic, who has written a Penguin history of modern Britain and is now writing the Penguin history of postwar Europe, thinks it possible that his party might even win three or four seats on May 1.

But if it does not, he will not be giving up. Why not? Because the UKIP "is not a 'here today, gone tomorrow' party. We'll be around for as long as it takes to win the UK's freedom from the European Union. We believe that within ten years, Britain will be out of Europe. The costs will be *so* enormous of going into a single currency."

So he's not too keen on economic and monetary union, then?

"It's an international suicide pact," he says straight away, without tip-toeing through any shades of grey. "And the alternative to suicide is not to commit suicide. You don't have to become a lion tamer or a ballet dancer. You just don't have to commit suicide." See? It's all incredibly logical.

Dr Sked clearly enjoys politics — *enjoys it so much that* even joining the Liberal Party as a 14-year-old ("My hero was Jo Grimond") did not disillusion him irrevocably. He has the winning manner of the genial don. He also has the smooth tongue of the lecturer who has marshalled his case in a way that makes it seem not only the most obvious analysis of a subject, but the *only* one.

The UK Independence Party is convinced that it has a firmer base of support than its direct rival, the Referendum Party. Sniping at its billionaire leader, Sir James Goldsmith, Dr Sked said: "We have a *democracy inside our* party — it isn't about one chief with his cheque book."

But realistically, Dr Sked knows that his 3½-year-old party's parliamentary muscle after the election will be more in the Kenneth Williams league than in the Mike Tyson bracket, but there will still be work for the UKIP to do. Certainly there will be important pots for it to stir.

"We believe the Conservative Party will enter into a civil war. It is going to be a spectator blood sport. They will be split down the middle on the issue of Europe, and the Labour Party will come under severe strain.

"Our role in all this," he says, reigniting his mischievous grin, "will be as a catalyst in this great period of flux. We expect MPs to come over to us during that period." Some critics call the party parochial, even nationalistic. Tosh. "We are not a party of little Englanders," he bridles. "We have a global outlook. Britain is not a post-imperial pimple on the map, it is the fifth largest economy in the world. We believe we could be a world-beater again if we had £19 billion extra to spend. "So far we have had a dummy election. The voters have been cast in the role of dummies. We have had no debate on Europe; it should be the fundamental issue of the day."

DAN CHUNG/REUTERS



Alan Sked displaying his party logo yesterday. "Our role will be as a catalyst in this great period of flux"

SNP lays down terms for a 'velvet divorce'

By Gillian Bowditch and Magnus Linklater

THE Scottish National Party issued its manifesto yesterday, promising lower income tax, 100,000 new jobs, reduced VAT on fuel, a cold-climate allowance and higher old-age pensions.

The Tories said the proposals would reduce Scotland to the status of a Third World country and Labour said the figures did not add up.

The 30-page SNP manifesto, *Yes We Can Win the Best for Scotland*, proposes spending an extra £6 billion in the first four years after a "velvet divorce" from England while raising taxes by only £80 million. The surplus is to be financed by Scotland's oil and gas revenues presently incorporated into the British Exchequer.

Key SNP tax pledges include: lowering the basic rate of income tax to 15p and expanding the tax ceiling for the standard rate from £26,100 to £30,015; taking 62p off a bottle of spirits and cutting VAT on fuel to 5 per cent.

Other proposals include: allowing all 16-year-olds the vote; introducing a minimum wage equivalent to half median male earnings of about £4 an hour; increasing child benefit to £12.50 a week and restoring benefits to 16 and 17-year-olds.

A package of social measures for the elderly include increasing state pensions by £3 a week for single people and £5 a week for married couples. There would also be a cold-climate allowance of £9.20 a week for pensioners.

To raise money the SNP would increase tax on tobacco by 34p on a packet of cigarettes. The surplus to fund the spending would come largely from oil and gas revenues. Quoting a Treasury estimate, Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, said that Scotland had financed London to the tune of £27 billion since 1979.

He said Scotland's oil and gas surplus for the next five years would be £12.5 billion and he committed the country to repaying £6.6 billion of the national debt that it would inherit in the first four years of independence. He insisted that the manifesto was fully costed and would work.

Henry McLeish, Labour's Scottish co-ordinator, said: "This is the same old nonsense. They're trying to con the Scottish people by spraying around spending commitments and tax cuts. But their figures don't add up."

Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, accused the SNP of living "in an economic fantasy". He said: "By the SNP's own accounting, their public spending plans would mean an increase of £5.5 billion in the first four years of separation. That does not take account of 68 further spending commitments they have made but not costed."

SNP MANIFESTO

The SNP manifesto promises to:

- ☐ **Create 100,000 jobs**
- ☐ **Introduce a national minimum wage at half median male earnings**
- ☐ **Endorse the Social Chapter**
- ☐ **Drop the starting rate of tax to 15p; introduce top rate at £30,000**
- ☐ **Cut the standard rate of corporation tax from 33 to 30 per cent**
- ☐ **Increase child benefit to £12.50 a week for each child and restore benefits to 16 and 17-year-olds**
- ☐ **Increase the state pension by £3 a week for individuals and £5 a week for couples**
- ☐ **Introduce a flat-rate cold-climate allowance of £9.20 for all pensioners benefit claimants to help with winter heating bills**
- ☐ **Provide an extra £35 million for the National Health Service in Scotland**
- ☐ **End nuclear reprocessing at Dounreay**
- ☐ **Set up Scottish Armed Forces**

ON THE STUMP

I think it's going to be the shortest career in British political history. **Martin Bell assessing his prospects in Tatton**

I know Martin Bell well from many visits to Sarajevo and elsewhere. He is a man of the highest integrity and commands overwhelming respect. **Paddy Ashdown at Lib Dem press conference**

He has a flaming cheek. **Neil Hamilton's wife, Christine, on Martin Bell**

Neil is standing up for what he believes in. **Bill Roache (Ken Barlow in *Coronation Street*) giving Mr Hamilton his backing**

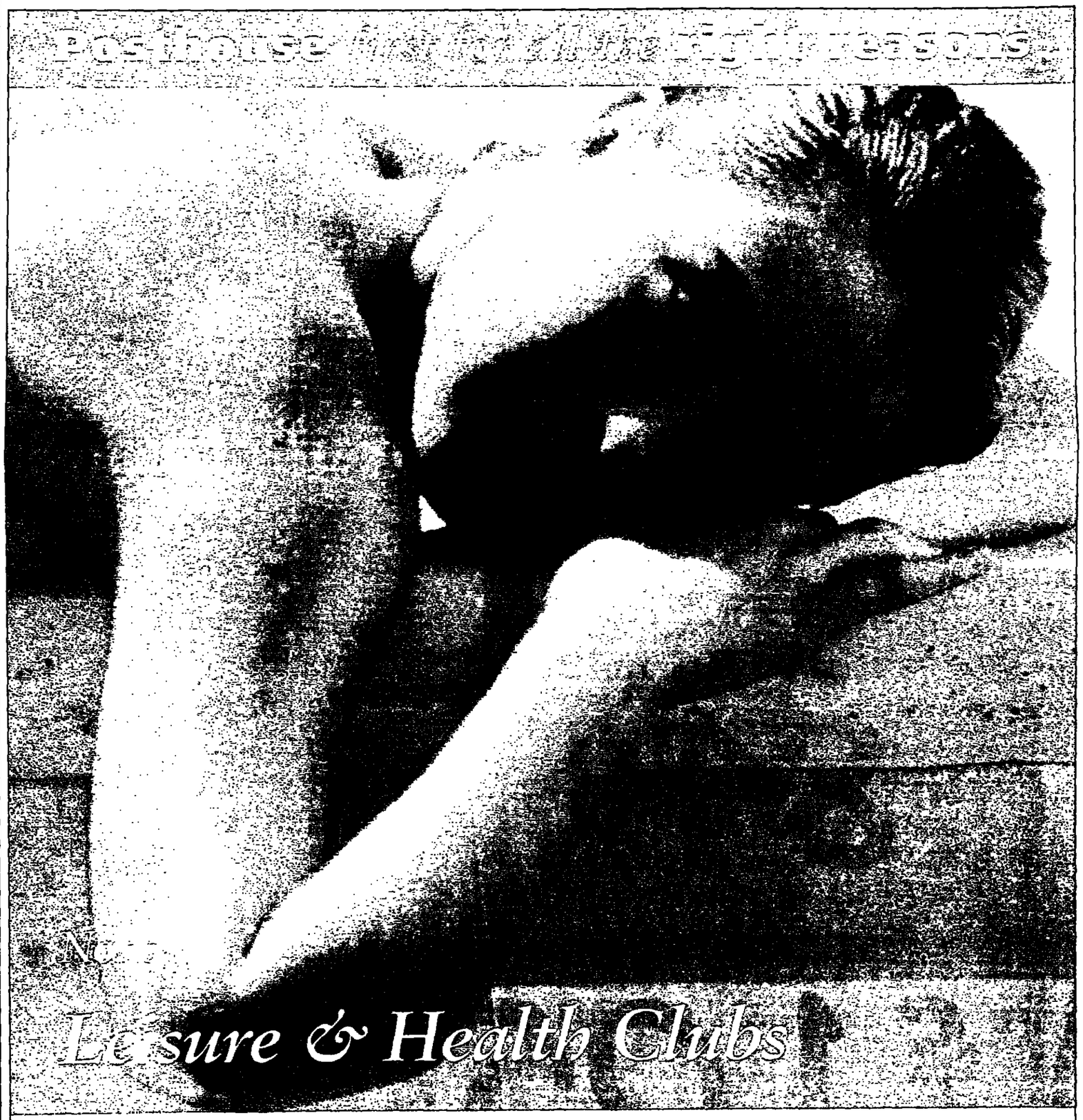
If people turn away from the hysterical soap opera of this election and look at the reality, think of their family finances, think of their jobs, think of jobs for their children they should be voting Conservative. **Kenneth Clarke on walkabout in Basildon**

We are prepared to sell off public assets where they are no longer of use to the country. **Gordon Brown on Radio 4's *Today***

We will get nowhere without toughness of thought and toughness of action. **Tony Blair to City businessmen**

We are not a party of little Englanders. We have a global outlook. Britain is not a post-imperial pimple on the map. **Alan Sked, leader of the UK Independence Party, launching his party's manifesto**

Because she would be away on missions a great deal. **The Tory MP Peter Bottomley explaining why he would like to see Lady Olga Maitland made Foreign Secretary**



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Blair promises to follow economic 'third way'

Uneasy businessmen received the Labour leader's final conversion to privatisation with a mixture of warmth and scepticism, write Jill Sherman and James Landale

TONY BLAIR completed Labour's conversion to privatisation yesterday by saying that the party would favour private enterprise over the public sector.

"What counts is what works," he told businessmen at London's Corn Exchange. In an astonishing statement from a Labour leader, Mr Blair said that there should no dogmatic belief that the public sector was better.

"Where there is no overriding reason for preferring the public provision of goods and services, particularly where those services operate in a competitive market, then the presumption should be that economic activity is best left to the private sector with market forces being fully encouraged to operate," Mr Blair said.

"You keep what works, you change what doesn't. What counts is not simply an absence of ideology. We can have ideals and a sense of obligation and sense of compassion without diminishing the desire for an efficient market economy."

The Labour leader also said that there would be no return to "beer and sandwiches at No 10" and no going back on the party's decision to ditch its Clause 4 commitment to wholesale nationalisation. Instead he spelt out a "third way" between state control and privatisation to end the Tories' "roller-coaster economy". One of his first acts as Labour leader had been to rewrite Clause 4 of the party's constitution to take account of the way the economic argument had moved on, he said. Labour now carefully balanced its commitment to social justice with a commitment to a strong enterprising private sector.

"We are not in the business of pressing the rewind button, of reversing these reforms. There should be no dogmatic belief that the private sector should do everything or that the public sector should do everything. It is the public interest that it is important. As we have made clear in our manifesto, what counts is what works."

Mr Blair said that it was vital to build a new partnership with business, but Labour would not be "picking winners" in the marketplace. "This is no rehash of 1960s corporatism. There will be no national plans, no grandiose industrial strategies.

"We have no proposals to return to tripartite institutions or beer and sandwiches at No 10. These are things we are not going to do." The party's aim was to build a partnership with business that was broader and deeper than any post-war Government has contemplated in Britain.

"Gone are the days when Labour represented one side of industry and business found itself automatically on the other."

Under his third-way strategy the party would preserve flexible labour markets but ensure basic minimum standards at work and a workforce well equipped to survive in the new market place.

He emphasised the importance of high quality education. "Education and economic growth go hand in hand, the one making the other possible."

Mr Blair also spoke of the need to get public spending and public borrowing under tight control. Since John Major had moved to the Treasury in 1989, the national debt had doubled. "This is a 'Rake's Progress' which we must now stop. We must hit and maintain tough limits into the indefinite future."

Mr Blair was given a warm welcome by his business audience. Danny Bernstein, managing director of Monarch Airlines, was "very positive" about Mr Blair, saying: "I don't think he has convinced the entire business community, but there are more coming round to his way of thinking. It may be that they just think he is going to win and so they had better come along and listen to what he has to say."

Stephen Kalman, director of the British Land Company, which hosted the event, said: "We are instinctively not Labour men. His performance is extremely well done. But we await events to see how his message is getting across. Personally, it is difficult to see. But we were interested to hear what he had to say."

CHRIS HARRIS



Tony Blair having coffee in the garden of the BZW offices yesterday. He said there would be no return to "beer and sandwiches" with the unions

'Sign of panic' cheers Tories

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

SENIOR ministers voiced delight yesterday at what they felt was the first direct hit of the election campaign — forcing Labour to drop its long-held hostility to privatisation in order to fill the alleged £12 billion black hole in its finances.

The shift was not instant: a few weeks ago Gordon Brown let it be known that he wanted to sell off the Tote but was rapidly stopped by the race-going Robin Cook. The present search for sell-off candidates, however, was prompted by the Shadow Chancellor's acceptance last week that there was a £1.5 billion gap in his proceeds for the second year of government if he did not try to match the Government's planned privatisation proceeds.

Ministers have been stunned that such a small sum should have prompted such a radical change. "If they panic like this when they are 20 points ahead, what would happen if it was neck-and-neck," one senior minister said yesterday. Emboldened by their success they have turned to the next alleged gap, Labour's promise to release local authority capital receipts in order to fund its house-building programme.

About £7.5 billion is sitting in the bank balances of local authorities from the sales over the years of council houses and other assets. The receipts, which they are prevented from spending, are used to keep down public borrowing.

The Tories say that councils will receive a further £1.3 billion a year over the next five years, bringing to more than £13 billion the total that Labour could release.

But while Labour says that it will phase the release of the money in a responsible way, the Tories have made the assumption that this will be over fiveyears, making the cost £2.6 billion a year. Labour fiercely contests the assumption and says that the extent of the phasing will depend on the capacity of the building industry to respond and "overall economic requirements".

Anatole Kaletsky, page 16

History offers sombre lesson



TONY BLAIR has some strange bedfellows as the latest in a long list of politicians to try to find a "third way" (Mark Henderson writes). The Yugoslav leader Marshal Tito, left, was the first to try when he defied Stalin to launch his own brand of communism in 1948. He was followed in 1956 by Imre Nagy in Hungary, and in the Prague Spring of 1968 by the Czech leader Alexander Dubcek, whose hopes of creating "communism with a human face" were crushed by Soviet tanks. Although occasionally revived by the likes of Bill Clinton and Jacques Chirac, the French President, the notion is not the fashionable nostrum that it once was. Indeed, the idea of a "third way" has most recently been appropriated by the far Right. Aleksandr Lebed, a rival of President Yeltsin, considered the name for his new political party in Russia, and the British magazine *Third Way*, run by former members of the National Front, recently attracted attention for backing the Referendum Party.

The acceptable face of nothing in particular



PETER RIDDELL

Kenneth Clarke joked in an interview the other day that the Major government had been "Thatcherism with a human face". But would a Blair government be much different?

Tony Blair has embraced most of the key features of the Thatcher era: reform of trade union laws, a tight fiscal and monetary policy and, now, privatisation. It was not so much that what he said yesterday in the City represented a big shift of policy — since little was new — as the starkness and bluntness with which he endorsed the free market and rejected virtually every belief held by Labour politicians over the past 70 years.

The impact is even greater following the rapid movement by the leadership over the past few days to drop or modify vulnerable positions on the trade unions, devolution and the single currency. Although the term U-turn is overdone, the Blair campaign has looked to be dodging and weaving in changing policy as it goes along. This has left unresolved questions both about the specifics of Labour's public spending plans and also about how a Blair government would make a difference in office.

Mr Blair has explicitly embraced "the new global economy", a position now being challenged by many on the European Left. Mr Blair has no such doubts about market forces: "There is no overriding reason for preferring the public provision of goods and services; particularly when those services operate in a competitive market, then the presumption should be that economic activity is best left to the private sector, with market forces being fully encouraged to operate." Not only is it impossible to imagine any past Labour leader making these remarks, but they could only be uttered through clenched teeth by many in the Shadow Cabinet, as was evident from Margaret Beckett's cool *World at One* interview yesterday.

Blairism is best summed up by his phrase "what counts is what works". This differs from the current Tory approach in its emphasis on social cohesion as being necessary for economic growth, making globalisation socially acceptable. But it is easier to define what Mr Blair would not do, than what he would.

Mr Blair says education is his top priority, but apart from a financially marginal, and mistaken, transfer of money from the assisted places scheme, Labour has given no indication of how it would achieve some of the desirable aspirations put forward by David Blunkett, other than waving a big stick.

The main exception is unemployment, the one area where Gordon Brown sounded distinctive and passionate in the BBC2 debate of the Chancellors on Sunday evening. His repeated warning about the one in five non-pensioner households with no one working is a powerful rallying cry for a left-of-centre party. But, otherwise, it is all good intentions.

If a Blair government raises taxes on business or accepts measures raising their costs, he risks being accused of betrayal by industry and the City. Alternatively, if he sticks to his free-market stand of the past few days, he risks disputes with union leaders and local authorities. Mr Blair is almost making his appeal "Tory measures, Labour men". That poses the awkward question of whether the Labour team either wants or is able to perform that task.

Labour is reminded of 'scum' remarks

THE Tories sought yesterday to counter Labour claims to be a pro-business party by highlighting a Shadow minister's past description of some wealthy businessmen as "stinking, lousy, thieving, incompetent scum" (James Landale writes).

Conservative Central Office took out a full-page advertisement in the London *Evening Standard* quoting Frank Dobson, the Shadow Environment Minister. The Tories claimed that Mr Dobson had made his attack on business people in 1992.

The advertisement said: "This is new Labour that is trying to present itself as the 'party of business'. Behind the smile of new Labour lie old instincts which are the enemy of businesses everywhere."

Labour spokesmen accused the Tories of lying. They said that Mr Dobson had been quoted selectively as he had described as "thieving scum" the "tiny number of employers who supported in 1992 the abolition of wages councils for employees on the poverty line while themselves having rich and ostentatious lifestyles".

They said the other remarks referred to Tory ministers who supported such employers.

The comments were first published in *The Sun* on September 29, 1992. "Yes, it is the politics of envy," Mr Dobson was quoted as saying. "We are envious of their wealth. These people are stinking, lousy, thieving, incompetent scum. Most of them are Tories."



Frank Dobson and the Tory party advert

"STINKING, LOUSY, THIEVING, INCOMPETENT SCUM."



Tony gets the bird again

The Tory chicken, left, made a reappearance yesterday when Tony Blair arrived at the Corn Exchange in London. As the Labour leader got out of his car, the chicken, which has not been seen since last Thursday, stepped in front of him waving a placard with the words: "What are you going to privatise, Tony?" Labour officials seized the bird and wrestled it away while a courier tried to pull its head off.

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Grand prix star finds a captive audience on the political circuit

THE shock on Edwina Currie's face was apparent in the butcher's, but she said not a word. Mrs Currie was at the Allenton shopping centre outside Derby. Between her and the butcher lay a counter of raw and cooked meats, side by side.

A former Health Minister needed no reminding what had caused the *E.coli* outbreak in Scotland, but this was no time to make enemies: the Tory candidate for South Derbyshire is facing an uphill battle in a constituency to which unhelpful new bits have been added.

This shopping centre was



MATTHEW PARRIS

one of those bits and her mission was to conquer. Outside, a busy ringroad set in rows of Thirties semis with the occasional monkey puzzle tree could almost have been Hendon — until you saw the load of hay passing by. A mixed-up, scrappy place, South Derbyshire — not really a place at all. Just like middle England. Flat cap country.

With her was the Tory candidate for Derby South, Javed Arain. A Jewish lady towing an Asian gentleman behind her. He was ambitious but nervous: a learner driver out for a practice spin with a grand prix champion. Mr Arain bumped into an old trade union official. Mrs Currie tut-tutted. "One of the things I've got to teach Javed," said our Damon Hill of the political circuit, "is that you don't argue with Labour voters."

Rumours of her visit had not reached the Pearls bakery when I arrived. Was she around? I asked.

"No. I think we'd know," replied the shop assistant. "She usually has gateaux." Moments later Mrs Currie sailed in, in pale lilac.

"You do look nice," said the assistant, as groupies crowded round. One small terrified lady customer with a Kwik-save bag tried to extract 12 white baps from the maelstrom. Mrs Currie cornered a lad in a Nottingham Refrigeration boiler suit. "Are you one of mine?"

"No. We've come to fix the fridge."

"Where are you from?" she said to a man in the Auto-parts Superstore. "Pentagon Vauxhall," he said.

"Where do *you* live?" she said to a startled lady with wet hair, pinned over the basin in a hairdresser's.

"You're mine, aren't you?" she chirped at an old fellow in Blades barbers, a hair-clipper poised inches from his left ear.

"Sitting there like captives," she chuckled to us outside. "Ha!"

Next, the lilac tornado hit Green's Footwear. By now we were getting the hang of her technique. Here were people with one shoe off, who could not run. But she saw a sign "Sunbeds upstairs" and stormed up to interrogate a bewildered youth, waiting for his tanning girlfriend.

"I don't vote," he stammered. "You should. Where are you from?"

"Belper."

Belper is not in Mrs Currie's constituency. She swung away to confront a woman just emerged, flushed pink, from a striped pine cubicle. Whatever it was this woman had expected to see after her brief exposure to the ultra-violet, it was not a lilac Mrs Currie. She looked frightened and disoriented. "Where are you from?"

Then off Mrs Currie went down the pavement, Javed struggling to keep up.

Everyone recognised her. Most people liked her. Many seemed quite excited to meet her. But some stubbornly refused to vote for her.

"I met this woman," one of her supporters told me, "who, when I asked her if she'd vote Conservative, said 'No. I don't hold with all these political parties. I'm voting for that Mrs Currie off the telly'."

The anecdote was recounted as being encouraging to South Derbyshire Tories, and in a way it is. But things have come to quite a pass when a struggling candidate takes comfort from the fact that voters may forget she's a Tory.

"Who's that?" a little girl asked her grandad outside the Rose and Crown in Chellaston, wither Edwina Currie had repaired for a Diet Coke. "That's our MP," he said, proudly. "Edwina Hotpot." He posed for a photograph with her.

PAUL TONGE



Edwina Currie canvassing for votes at the Rose and Crown in Chellaston

Hague steers clear of speculation on party leadership

Valerie Elliott meets a rising star of the Tory party who has much more than his political future in mind

WILLIAM HAGUE, the Welsh Secretary, took Major's reins yesterday in a bold move to show off his leadership qualities.

On this occasion Major was a horse and Mr Hague was demonstrating his cart-driving skill. "Who needs a battle bus?" he said, towering over the prize-winning shire horse. That, however, was the only hint to fuel talk of a future Hague bid for the leadership of the Conservative Party as he went on the campaign trail yesteerday.

"I am not contemplating being anything other than MP for Richmond and Secretary of State for Wales. I am not interested in talk of Conservative leadership elections. Every member of the party should be concentrating on winning the election 24 hours a day," he said.

But we already know that Mr Hague is an astute politician. And it is clear that he is being pushed forward to take a high-profile role in this campaign and is in constant touch with the party strategists at Central Office in London. He was put up at short notice yesterday for BBC Radio 4's *The World at One* to attack what Conservatives refer to as Labour's U-turn on privatisation.

Last night he also put forward the Tory case on education in a Channel 4 television debate with David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary. Angling for the education portfolio perhaps? Mr Hague rejected the notion.

The only time he displayed any irritation was after mugging up his brief for the radio broadcast only to find that the satellite link had failed. He was saved by a telephone at a motorway service station near Bridgend.

After two years as Welsh Secretary he no longer objects to accusations of "going native". After all, he is to marry a Welsh woman, Ffion Jenkins, a civil servant who works for him, and he willingly said yesterday that Wales had become an important part of his life.

His fiancée is also teaching him Welsh, which he said he was enjoying very much.

He is not impressed with taunts that he is merely an English overlord representing the Cabinet and Westminster in Wales. "The people recognise I have fought very hard for the people of Wales and I get tired of the gibes. The job you do is more important than where you come from."

He is also determined to speak out against Labour's plans for a Welsh assembly: "That is one think the voters of Wales do not mention on the doorstep. It would be an expensive room full of hot air. It would divide Wales not unite it and make Wales inward-looking instead of outward-looking."

He dismissed talk of a Tory wipeout in Wales at the election and believes he could even win a few seats.

Mr Hague had little time to discuss sleaze. He dubbed it "a side issue" and said it should not be the subject on which the country's future was decided at the election. It was up to local Conservative associations to choose their candidate. When pressed to say whether he supported more party central control on constituencies, however, he conceded that that might be something to look at later.

He fed a six-day-old kid at a Cardiff city farm, cooed at a baby at B&Q and spoke often about Ffion — how they had bought his fiancée's diamond engagement ring in London but were thinking of having their wedding rings made from Welsh gold.

He was in such good spirits that he even pledged Welsh Office help in the search for the so-called Beast of Bont, the cat-like creature that has been attacking sheep around Pontrhydfendigaid in Dyfed. But it was a warm spring day and love was in the air, so he added: "I don't think I could go and hunt him personally, though."



William Hague taking a break from canvassing in Wales to speak to *Times* reporter Valerie Elliott



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Zaire troops switch sides as unrest grows in Kinshasa

BY SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT, AND WILLIAM WALLIS IN KINSHASA

HUNDREDS of Zairean government troops changed sides yesterday and donned white headbands to signal their allegiance to rebels closing in on the country's second largest city, Lubumbashi.

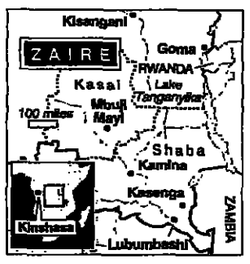
As they did so unrest grew in Kinshasa, the capital, with factions of President Mobutu's Government squabbling over who should wield what remains of its power.

Soldiers at several barracks in and around Lubumbashi switched sides after men, believed to have been fellow government troops, broadcast appeals on the local radio station urging them to lay down their arms.

In a further sign that Zaire's rebellion is taking the form of a revolution against President Mobutu, the Lubumbashi-based Governor of Shaba province repeated his plea that the army should not allow "bloodshed or looting". Kyungu wa Kumwanza was appointed Governor by Mr Mobutu only a fortnight ago. The President, 66, who is fighting advanced prostate cancer, hoped Mr Kyungu would put backbone into his army after it retreated from a third of Zaire without a fight.

Since taking office the Governor, a former secessionist, has dropped demands for an independent Shaba and sought to reserve a position for himself in a rebel administration by insisting that he looks forward to working with Laurent Kabila, the guerrilla leader. The popularity of Mr Kabila, who is seen as a liberator by most Zaireans after 32 years of dictatorship under President Mobutu, has grown with every town that he has taken.

As a result MbujiMayi, the capital of East Kasai and the hub of Zaire's diamond industry, fell to his men peacefully at the weekend. Yesterday it was clear that Lubumbashi would go the same way. Groups of soldiers milled about discussing which side to join, businessmen shut their shops and rich Zaireans close to the Mobutu regime continued to leave for the "safety" of neighbouring Zambia.



"What is surprising is that there have been no panicking soldiers, and no signs of looting," said a resident of Lubumbashi who is familiar with the army's reputation for pillage and rape.

The rebel Alliance of Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire took Kipushi, 20 miles south of Lubumbashi, yesterday morning in a surprise attack in which there was no fighting. The sudden loss of the town was a clear indication that the rebels would press on to Lubumbashi, which was expected to fall within two days.

"The rebels were mostly very young, in uniform, and carrying light weapons. They just moved into the town and then marched on towards Lubumbashi. Everyone was delighted to wake up in the newly liberated area," a businessman in Kipushi said.

Alliance and government envoys continued to meet in Pretoria yesterday to discuss a ceasefire, but as one diplomat said: "It's difficult to have a ceasefire when there doesn't seem to be any fighting." The next major prize for the rebels will be Kinshasa, where Mr Mobutu has been keeping a low profile in his hilltop palace while members of the *classe politique* continue to bicker over who is going to be Prime Minister in his largely defunct regime. Soldiers fired teargas grenades when one of the spats looked like getting out of control, but there were no reports of serious injuries.

Supporters of Etienne Tshisekedi, the newly appointed Prime Minister, broke through cordons of troops who used armoured cars to try to stop them from marching on parliament yesterday. MPs later abandoned a proposal to oust Mr Tshisekedi, a former opponent of Mr Mobutu.

He was appointed to the post only last Wednesday, and immediately excluded Mr Mobutu's supporters from his new Cabinet. Several thousand protesters set up barricades of burning tyres in the streets of the capital's teeming shantytowns and paramilitary police used armoured vehicles, teargas and baton charges to disperse protesters who reached parliament. Some police sent to disperse the crowds were visibly slow to obey orders.

The political turmoil in Kinshasa has further complicated the country's crisis. The rebels have captured more than a third of the vast nation since taking up arms in October.

JACK DABAGHIAN / REUTER



Students loyal to Etienne Tshisekedi, Zaire's Prime Minister, demonstrate yesterday against President Mobutu in Kinshasa, the capital

India risks humiliation of Independence Day chaos

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

ATTEMPTS to save India's ten-month-old coalition Government look doomed, threatening to throw the country into one of its greatest political upheavals four months before its fiftieth anniversary of independence.

The chaos in Delhi is in contrast to political stability in Pakistan, which has its strongest elected Government, a Prime Minister who can no longer be sacked by the President, and an army whose new generation of senior officers are giving democracy its greatest freedom.

This is an unusual state of affairs: rarely in the past decade has Pakistan been in better political shape, or India in worse. Delhi would be humiliated were it still in crisis on August 15, Independence Day. Pakistan celebrates its formation a day earlier.

The rule of H. D. Deve Gowda, the Indian Prime Minister, is all but certain to end this week. His aides rule out resignation, but if he does not quit there seems no way out of defeat in a vote of confidence due on Friday in the Lok Sabha (lower house of parliament).

A general election may be the only way out of deadlock, although most parties are desperate to avoid one less than a year after the last, inconclusive, poll. The crisis was precipitated by the Congress party, which has ruled India for most of the half century of independence, when it withdrew parliamentary support from Mr Deve Gowda's 13-party coalition and launched a seemingly futile attempt to lead a new administration.

The reason for the split is evidently personal, not ideological as claimed. Sitaram Kesri, the Congress president, is angry that he and other senior party members are being pursued by police for corruption and other alleged misdeeds.

He has been interrogated about the death of his physician, allegedly murdered. Mr Kesri claims this is part of a political vendetta by the Prime Minister against senior Congress politicians, a claim that seems to have some validity given the number who are being pursued. Senior politicians are generally safe from the law unless their rivals arrange otherwise.

Mr Deve Gowda and Mr Kesri have been withering in their comments about each other, dragging politics even lower in the public estimation.

The alternative to an election appears to be the selection of a replacement Prime Minister. The Congress party would doubtless return to the fold if that were arranged. It would, however, expect a withdrawal of police investigations into the financial affairs of some of its senior MPs.

The hardline pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party has pledged to vote against the Government on Friday, ensuring its downfall, unless Congress, which has more to fear from an election than most other parties, loses its nerve.

Phone taps 'protected Mitterrand daughter'

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

THE Elysée Palace telephone tapping scandal continued to escalate yesterday amid revelations of a plot to kidnap François Mitterrand's illegitimate daughter, allegations of blackmail and calls from both the Left and the Right for the Government to lift "monarchical" secrecy laws.

Michel Charasse, the former Socialist minister, said that the illegal phone tapping, carried out on Mitterrand's orders, had been necessary to protect the late President's family because of "terrorist attacks" from 1982 to 1986.

In an interview published in *L'Est Républicain*, M Charasse, a close confident of the former President, said that Mitterrand had received repeated threats to kidnap and kill his illegitimate daughter Mazarine Pingeot, whose existence was only made public in 1994. Gilbert and Jean-Christophe Mitterrand, the former President's sons, had also received "serious threats".

Lionel Jospin, the Socialist leader, called for the Government to lift official secrecy surrounding the illegal phone tapping by the anti-terrorist unit at the Elysée. François Leotard, the centre-right former Defence Minister, whose former aides were subjected to wiretaps by his successor, also called for secrecy to be lifted and questioned the existence of the French secret police, the Renseignements Généraux, which he called "archaic".

Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, refused a request by Gilles Menage, who headed Mitterrand's office in the early 1980s and is being investigated for the alleged tapping, to waive official secrecy to allow him to prepare his defence.



Pingeot: target of "plot" by would-be kidnappers

Pilots fear tragedies in perilous Africa airspace

South African pilots say air traffic controls over the continent have collapsed and are calling for action. **R.W. Johnson** *writes from Johannesburg*

SOUTH African airline pilots — backed by the International Federation of Airline Pilots' Associations — have again issued a warning about the likelihood of "catastrophic accidents" in African airspace caused by the breakdown of air traffic control systems across the continent.

Pilots flying from South Africa are most at risk, having to overfly the entire continent to reach Europe. They point out that once a plane gets as far north as Zimbabwe all African countries thereafter, with the exception of Egypt and Morocco, are "critically deficient" in the flight information they provide. "There is little or no radar or VHF radio coverage" over 90 per cent of Africa, the pilots say.

"Numerous navigation beacons are permanently out of service. Other facilities often do not work. Because many airports have not been surveyed for a long time, flight-deck crews cannot be assured that the obstacle clearance heights used in the determination of approach minimum altitudes are still correct. Anemometers and other essential aids are either defective or are missing."

The pilots blame out-of-date and poorly maintained equipment, poor training and corruption. Large overflight and navigation fees are paid to all African states — a typical flight from Johannesburg to London costs an airline more than £5,000 in such fees, but this money simply vanishes and is clearly not being used to maintain air traffic services. In some African countries, such as Nigeria, this situation has produced a high incidence of air crashes, and pilots say that near-misses are becoming common. The pilots have had to fall back on their own resources — the use of Traffic Information Broadcasts Between Aircraft (TIBA) procedures, introduced as a temporary measure over Africa 20 years ago but today still basic to any hope of safety in African skies. The problem is that the 126.9m frequency used by TIBA has now become so crowded that even the efficiency of this stop-gap is diminishing — and it could never be hoped to replace more than a fraction of the services which should have been provided by ground controllers.

> "Perhaps it will take a few really bad disasters to jolt people into doing what they ought to do"

Second, some planes are fitted with TCAS (Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance Systems), though these are not compulsory. Using TCAS, one South African Airways plane recently picked up two other aircraft closing on it, one 2,100ft above and one only 200ft above. An emergency avoidance manoeuvre prevented a collision by less than 100ft. SAA pilots are even talking of the possibility of reverting to flying to Europe around the bulge of Africa, as in the days of anti-apartheid sanctions. But this route was costly in terms of fuel, required modified planes and would be uncompetitive if other airlines did not follow suit.

What the pilots want is concerted action not only by the International Federation of Airline Pilots' Associations but by the International Airline Transport Association (IATA) and the International Civil Aviation Organisation, if necessary levying sanctions against offending countries. To date IATA and the civil aviation organisation have steered away from such confrontational tactics. Air safety depends on states acknowledging that deficiencies exist, and no African state is willing to admit to shortcomings.

The pilots issued a warning that air traffic over Africa is increasing rapidly and that if the international bodies continue to play a passive role, large-scale air tragedies are inevitable.

"Perhaps it will take a few really bad disasters to jolt people into doing what they ought to do now," one pilot said, "but it's quite criminal if hundreds of people have to get killed simply to emphasise a point we've been making for years."

Burma general escapes bomb

BY ANDREW DRUMMOND IN BANGKOK AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A BOMB which exploded at the house of one of Burma's military leaders killed his daughter and led to a renewed security alert in Rangoon, diplomats said yesterday.

The military junta, the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc), said last night that a "terrorist bomb" went off at the home of Lieutenant-General Tin Oo, ranked number four in the junta, which was under heavy guard yesterday. A Slorc spokesman said the bomb had apparently arrived "as a parcel".

It is the second time in less than four months that General Tin Oo has escaped a bomb blast. On Christmas Eve, only a few minutes after he had left, two explosions ripped open a Buddhist temple, killing five people and injuring 13.

Karen separatists and Muslim and student pro-democracy organisations denied responsibility for the latest bomb. Western diplomats have not ruled out the possibility that the bomb could have been an "inside job" resulting from rivalry inside Slorc.

Cho Lei Oo, 33, General Tin Oo's daughter, who had two small children, is said to have died instantly in the explosion on Sunday night.

There was no shortage of suspects. General Tin Oo, a hardliner, had been supervising a crackdown on the Karen ethnic minority on the border with Thailand. He has been quoted as urging the "annihilation" of all enemies of the state, alienating pro-democracy leaders and failing to win friends in Slorc, intent on luring investors to Burma.

WORLD SUMMARY

Police and Inkatha in clash

Johannesburg: Supporters of the Inkatha Freedom Party scuffled with police outside the Supreme Court here yesterday when an inquiry into the deaths of eight Inkatha marchers and 11 other people began (Inigo Gilmore writes).

The eight marchers were killed outside the rival African National Congress's headquarters in Johannesburg on March 28, 1994. The 11 others died at two other places. The inquiry is considering only these 19 of more than 50 deaths in and around Johannesburg on the same day.

Pakistan hit by food riots

Peshawar: Food riots paralysed this northwestern Pakistani city and hit other towns, forcing the Government to order special trains to take wheat there. About 5,000 people, many carrying sticks, looted a state-run store in Peshawar and hundreds tried to attack two flour mills on the second day of riots, police said. The Government blames the shortage on smuggling to neighbouring countries, hoarding and the late arrival of imported wheat. *(Reuter)*

Jail hearing in fraud case

Seoul: Chung Tae Soo, founder of South Korea's stricken Hanbo Group, in testimony broadcast from a Seoul jail, told a parliamentary inquiry he had donated money to President Kim Young Sam's election campaign and other political figures. Three close associates of the President are on trial with Mr Chung and six others for corruption uncovered when Hanbo collapsed. *(Reuter)*

Afghan relief men flogged

Kabul: Five Afghan workers for a French humanitarian agency were flogged for violating Islamic law and mixing with Afghan women at a party. The flogging, aimed at humiliating the staff of Action Contre la Faim rather than causing them pain, was carried out after a 45-day jail term. They received between nine and 29 lashes each. *(AFP)*

It's not so good to talk

Haifa: A thief who ransacked a Haifa home found himself in the arms of the law after agreeing to a date with a policewoman over the mobile phone he stole. Sergeant-Major Yardena Rahamim said that the 22-year-old suspect agreed to a date after only a brief conversation. *(AFP)*

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Barclays	13.9%	£200.88	£9,633.12	£673.44
TSB	14.9%	£197.40	£9,475.20	£515.52
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Stray dog kills man who befriended it

FROM PATRICK SMELLIE IN WELLINGTON

A STRAY hunting dog mauled to death a man who had befriended it only days earlier. Koro Dinsdale, 59, a New Zealand meat worker, died on Sunday in a frenzied attack.

The dog was identified after a post-mortem examination yesterday as a bull terrier cross, of a kind commonly used in New Zealand for pig hunting.

Mr Dinsdale had been out with the bull terrier and a dog of his own to collect watercress about 100 yards from his home in the North Island hamlet of Te Puke. Mr Dinsdale's injuries indicated that the brindle bull terrier had first attacked the other dog and then Mr Dinsdale when he tried to separate them.

He was found dead by his adult sons, with horrific bite wounds over 90 per cent of his body. His right leg was almost severed, he had suffered massive blood loss from wounds to his throat, and his arms, hands and abdomen were badly bitten and scratched.

The dog was shot dead when it began stalking family members attempting to retrieve Mr Dinsdale's body. His brother, Wawi Dinsdale, said Mr Dinsdale was an experienced dog handler and had trained pig dogs, but would not have anticipated the bull terrier's attack. "They don't growl or bark. They just go for you and latch on," he said. "They should be outlawed."

New Zealand strengthened its dog laws last year to allow the impounding and destruction of dangerous dogs, but did not ban particular breeds because attempts to do so in Britain have led to protracted legal wrangles.

Attack on Chinese rights record backed by Britain

BY MICHAEL BINYON, CHARLES BREMNER, AND JAMES PRINGLE IN BEIJING

BRITAIN yesterday gave strong support to a Danish decision to sponsor a resolution condemning China's record, at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, confirmed that Britain would co-sponsor the resolution, which has caused sharp division within the European Union. "It is important that international attention is focused on the need for improvement in China's human rights situation," he said.

Ten other EU members are likely to join Britain in backing the resolution later this week. France and Germany, however, insisted that quiet diplomacy would achieve more, and refused to allow the Dutch presidency of the EU to table a motion on behalf of all 15 members. Spain and Italy were also reluctant to endorse the criticism.

China attacked the Danish move. "We still hope Denmark will think further about the conseqences of such action," Shen Guofang, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, said at a forum on human rights in Beijing. "If it takes the lead in proposing this anti-China motion, then it will be the biggest loser." He added: "Relations will be severely damaged in the political, economic and trade areas."

Niels Helveg Petersen, the Danish Foreign Minister, said he hoped the move would not harm trade with China, where some of Denmark's biggest companies have extensive interests.

"If you cannot put forward criticism in this forum, where the devil can you do it?" he said.

Observers said the French position was motivated by a fear of losing trade opportunities. President Chirac is to visit Beijing next month and hopes to sell millions of dollars of Airbus airliners.

The United States also welcomed Denmark's decision. China has defeated previous resolutions over the past six years, thanks to support from developing countries in the 53-nation body.

Chinese academics produced yesterday by the Foreign Ministry said that China's two leading human rights activists, Wei Jingsheng and Wang Dan, currently serving long prison sentences for alleged sedition, were criminals who were "dealt with according to proper legal procedures".

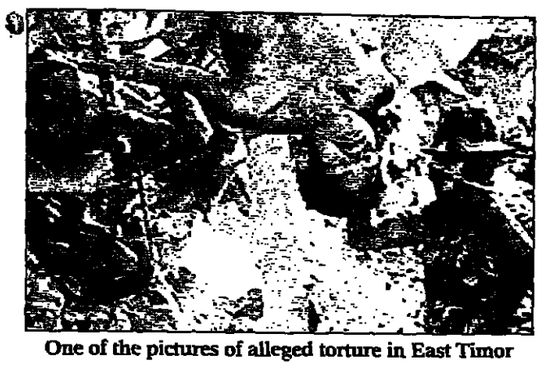
EU Foreign Ministers discussed China on the first evening of their two-day meeting in Noordwijk, a resort on the Dutch coast. Foreign affairs were only part of a look at progress in the inter-governmental conference on such contentious questions as the integration of the Western European Union and the EU, reducing the number of EU commissioners, and reweighting the votes of the large and small EU members.

The ministers' meeting came immediately after the one-day conference of finance ministers in the resort. With the exception of Britain, the ministers used the session to send a clarion call to sceptical financial markets that the euro would be born on schedule on January 1, 1999.

Buoyed by Helmut Kohl's decision to run again for the chancellorship, they mopped up the last technical items on the countdown for the single currency and set a broad date for the selection of the first members of the euro club. The momentous council which will pick the founders is to be held around May 1 next year in Brussels. The choice of venue was widely viewed as a slap at London, because in normal EU tradition the meeting should be held in Britain as it will hold the Euro-presidency in the first half of next year.

Mr Clarke, far out of line with his EU colleagues, poured cold water on single-currency enthusiasm, saying a launch on schedule was "unlikely but not impossible".

Leading article, page 17



One of the pictures of alleged torture in East Timor

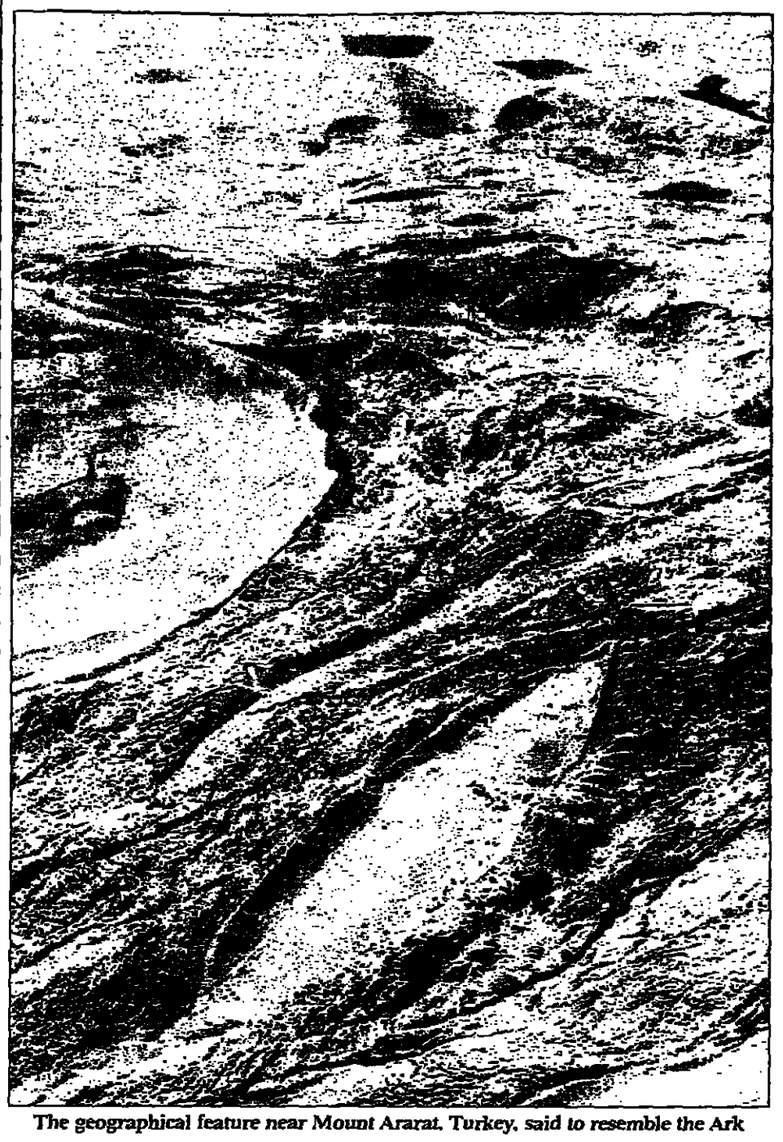
East Timor torture video

Geneva: The camera shows a man's bloody wrist, nailed to his prison plank. Men in khakis torture inmates with sticks, chair legs, electric shocks and metal chains. A corpse wrapped in rags lies in a corner.

These and other graphic images allegedly showing torture of East Timorese youths by the Indonesian Army were presented yesterday to the United Nations Human Rights Commission meeting in Geneva by the exiled independence leader and 1996 Nobel Peace laureate, Jose Ramos Horta, for investigation.

Mr Horta said the still pictures from a video film were taken in East Timor jails in 1996 and smuggled out recently. He called for a UN investigation and urged the West to stop sending arms to Indonesia. *(Reuter)*

Scientist rocks the boat in Noah's Ark case



The geographical feature near Mount Ararat, Turkey, said to resemble the Ark

FROM REUTER IN SYDNEY

THE battle between science and creationism entered a Sydney courtroom yesterday, with Noah's Ark at the centre of the tussle.

An Australian scientist and an American marine salvage expert are suing creationist Allen Roberts under Australian consumer law. Mr Roberts is accused of breach of copyright and misleading the public in lectures on his explorations of an archaeological site in eastern Turkey which many believe is the remains of Noah's Ark.

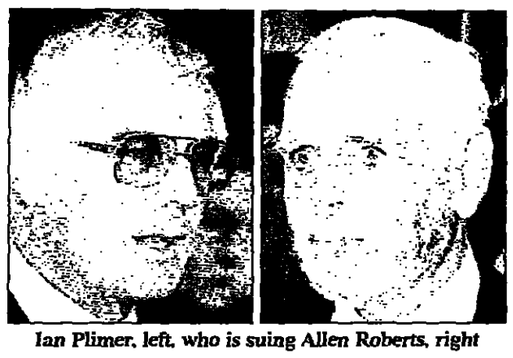
While lawyers assured the court that the biblical story of creation was not on trial, the small courtroom was packed with supporters from both sides of the divide.

David Fasold, a marine salvage expert, claims Mr Roberts, who holds a US Christian education doctorate, breached copyright by using his drawings of an archaeological site near Mount Ararat in lecture-tour literature. Mr Roberts sold lecture brochures in 1992 containing Mr Fasold's drawing. "I see them as exploiting and embellishing [my drawing] to try to use it to create the concept that creation science is balanced science and I object to that," Mr Fasold said.

Ian Plimer, a Melbourne geology professor, claims Mr Roberts misled paying audiences during lectures by referring to scientific reports of the site as partly a result of his work, and by selling videotapes of his lectures. Both actions, he said, broke Australian fair trading laws. "I have been to the site and looked at his claims and I say they are not convincing," said Professor Plimer, who has a long history of challenging creationists.

In his lecture video, played to the court, Mr Roberts said the Turkish site "appeared to be a boat, the kind any child would recognise", adding that it was the size of a "battleship" and matched the dimensions of Noah's Ark in Genesis.

Both sides agree that this case will not have the same impact as the famous "monkey" trial in the United States in 1925. Then a young Tennessee biology teacher, John Scopes, was tried for teaching Darwin's theory of evolution. Scopes was found guilty, but the public outcry forced Tennessee to moderate its creationist education.



Ian Plimer, left, who is suing Allen Roberts, right

Clinton plea as Israel awaits more suicide bombs

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM AND BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

THE urgency behind yesterday's talks between Binyamin Netanyahu and President Clinton was highlighted as Israeli-Arab violence continued and a senior Israeli officer said more Islamic suicide attacks were expected "in the immediate future".

In Washington, President Clinton prepared to urge Israel to hold new talks with Palestinian leaders and make rapid improvements in the treatment of Palestinians, to save the peace process. But in yesterday's meeting with Mr Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Clinton planned to treat warily his suggestion that Palestinians and Israelis embark immediately on intensive make-or-break talks on the region's "final status". State Department officials believe this would be a high-risk and potentially damaging tactic.

Bill Richardson, the US Ambassador to the United Nations, said: "We are very concerned at the significant and rapid decline in the confidence that the Palestinians and the Israeli Government have in each other, and to some extent in the process itself".

Two Palestinians were wounded, one seriously, when a Jewish settler opened fire on them with an M16 assault rifle after his vehicle was stoned in the village of Kharbata in the occupied West Bank yesterday. In Hebron, another settler fired in the air after he was stoned by Palestinians near the Tomb of the Patriarchs, a shrine holy to Jews and Muslims.

An Israeli bus travelling in annexed east Jerusalem towards the Wailing Wall was attacked by stone-throwing Arabs. The windscreen was smashed and two passengers wounded. Islamic Jihad, the Palestinian group which last week launched two abortive suicide attacks against Jewish settlers' children, threatened further attacks in a new leaflet. "Zionist settlers, no matter where in our Palestinian land, will not be safe from our weapons and our human bombs," the group said.

Major-General Shmuel Arad, head of the Israel Defence Force's Home Front, was reported by Israel radio as claiming that more suicide attacks were imminent.

Letters, page 17

Bonn fears Iranian violence over trial

FROM DEBORAH COLLCUTT IN BONN

GERMANY fears violent retaliation from Iran if this week's Berlin court verdict on the killing of three Kurdish dissidents accuses Tehran of ordering the murders.

Klaus Kinkel, the Foreign Minister, met government security advisers and experts yesterday to discuss the consequences of the verdict, and his office is advising Germans not to travel to Iran, according to *Der Spiegel* magazine.

Relations between Iran and Germany, Iran's largest Western trading partner, are brittle in advance of Thursday's verdict in the marathon "Mykonos trial", named after the Greek restaurant in Berlin where the dissidents and their translator were killed in a hail of bullets in September 1992.

Prosecutors are seeking life terms from the Superior Court of Justice in Berlin for Kazem Darabi, an Iranian, and Abbas Rhayel, a Lebanese, the two main defendants. They are accused of shooting Sadiq Sarafkindi, the Kurdish leader, and his colleagues, aided by three other Lebanese men.

After his summing-up last year, Bruno Jost, the state prosecutor, prompted angry government denials and demonstrations in Tehran by accusing Ayatollah Khamenei, the country's powerful spiritual leader, and President Rafsanjani of being behind the killings.

Bosnia religious violence sharpens fears for Pope

FROM TOM WALKER IN SARAJEVO

AN ALARMING upsurge in Bosnia's religious tensions is leading to fears for the safety of the Pope during his visit to Sarajevo in five days' time.

United Nations and Nato spokesmen yesterday denounced the latest attack, in which three rocket-propelled grenades were fired at a Franciscan friary in central Bosnia-Herzegovina, injuring a local policeman.

Up to 100,000 people are expected to attend Mass with the Pope in Sarajevo's Kosovo football stadium on Sunday. Nato and international security experts are worried that the fractious Bosnian police may not be able to ensure the Pope's safety.

In many of the recent attacks on Catholic institutions and buildings, the mainly Muslim force has proved an ineffective deterrent. "Even in this country it's not that easy to wander around with three grenades without someone noticing," a UN spokesman said, adding that the "efforts of the local police cannot be deemed satisfactory".

The friary damaged in the attack, which is near Kakanj, 40 miles north of Sarajevo, is one of the country's oldest religious buildings. At least 40 windows were smashed by the blasts. Over the past month, at least three Catholic churches and two Muslim mosques have been damaged in similar circumstances, including a church in Sarajevo 20 yards from a police station.

A Bosnian police source denied his force was out of its depth in protecting one of the world's leading figures in a country that is awash with arms. "It is not something we're fooling around with," he said. "This is the Pope and the whole world is watching."

Mato Zovkic, Sarajevo's Vicar-General, admitted it was unusual for the Pope to visit an 80 per cent Muslim city, and that the trip would be to his riskiest destination for some years.

"If he was coming to see Catholics, he would go to Mostar," Father Zovkic said. "But he comes to see the whole country, of which Sarajevo is the capital." The city's prewar Catholic population of 528,000 has been halved, and there are only about 400,000 Catholics in the whole country.

Ironically, it is Bosnia's Croat Catholic community that has most to fear from the papal visit. The Pope has always been an outspoken advocate of a united Bosnia, while many Croats, particularly in Mostar and Herzegovina, favour joining Croatia.

The Roman Catholic Church has been at pains to distance itself from a poster issued by "Croatian Catholic Youth," which carries the message "He Comes to Us" under a picture of the Pope and young Croats waving the nationalist chequerboard symbol.

☐ **Mine appeal:** Aleksandr Ivanko, a UN spokesman, called for more international resources for mine-clearing in Bosnia after three teenagers were killed when they accidentally triggered a device in a field near Ilijas, 12 miles north of Sarajevo. *(AP)*



A defaced poster for this week's papal visit to Sarajevo

New tech tracks down virtual jukebox

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

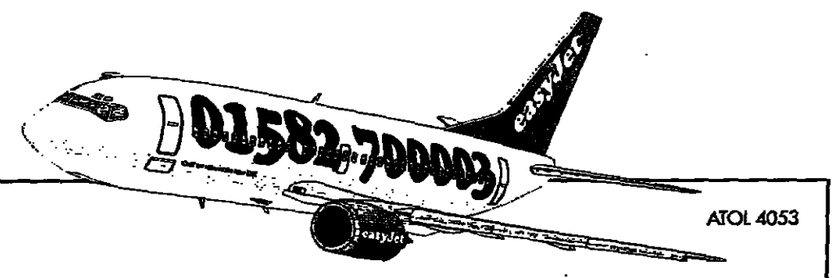
IN A breakthrough which has the potential to revolutionise the record industry, the world's first virtual jukebox has been launched by a French company, allowing music fans to sample and download their favourite songs at the touch of a button.

Paris Music's Savoy-based creators, Eurodat, took three years to develop its experimental technology. The first on-line music delivery network, Paris Music is a mixture of jukebox and record shop, although it has several obvious advantages over the latter. The system allows Internet users to listen to their chosen song before deciding whether to download it on to their computer hard disk. A three-minute track takes about 90 seconds to download.

Paris Music is also competitively priced. Songs cost between Fr10 (£1.11) and Fr15 each, half the average price of a CD single in France. There are already 400 wide-ranging titles.

The system is being tested in Paris, Strasbourg and Le Mans before it becomes generally available to the French public in September, according to Eurodat's president, Francois-Xavier Nuttall, 32. The company plans to expand the service to Britain, Germany and Finland next year.

While about 100 virtual record shops already exist on the Internet, they are mostly showcases which allow users to sample music and to buy their chosen discs by mail order. Paris Music is the first website which allows its customers to download individual tracks.



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Elton leads the way to the frivolous 50s

But not everyone wants to follow suit, says **Grace Bradberry**

THE pictures of Elton John celebrating his 50th birthday with a fancy dress party at the Hammersmith Palais will have sent a shudder down the spine of anyone approaching their half-century.

There was the former Reg Dwight, resplendent in a jewel-encrusted, Louis XIV-style costume, complete with floor-length boa, an enormous wig with a galleon on top, and lace



Over the top: Elton

cuffs. The whole effect suggested that age had not brought wisdom.

With 40-year-olds refusing to change their 30-year-old ways, 50 is becoming the point at which people officially move into middle age. But how do you mark this milestone without appearing sadly staid or ludicrously undignified?

Only a few people crave the big event. Actor and committed party-goer Christopher Biggins says he would love to throw a similar bash. "I think Elton John was quite right to do something big. If money was no object I would charter Concorde and fly 100 of my closest friends to some exotic island. Sadly, money is an object," he says wistfully. "But who knows, I might be able to tempt *Hello!* or *Okay!* to cover it and pay towards it."

But most people are not party animals — especially if they have to organise the occasion themselves. Author Joanna Trollope says: "I would be perfectly miserable to do an Elton John. I feel quite furtive about birthdays. It's not the age thing. It's just that although I enjoy the whole firework thing when it's for *someone else, I loathe it when it's done for me.* When I turned 50 I had a family dinner party."

Newsreader Martyn Lewis, who turned 50 two years ago, would not have done "an Elton John" for the world either: "I've never gone in for the huge thrash where you get very little chance to talk to most of the people who are there," he says. "I held two dinners parties and invited my family to one and friends to the other."

Writer Bel Mooney followed the same pattern when she turned 50 last October. "I had two dinner parties, one in Bath for my Bath friends, and one in London for my London friends. They were riotous, wonderful evenings. In my *Who's Who* entry I list one of my interests as friends, and I just wanted to have them all around me."

Lucinda Lambton could not resist the temptation to disappear: "I went to Euro Disneyland to see the beautiful American architecture. It was a magical experience. Perry (writer Sir Peregrine Worsthorne) and I got into the Metro outside the Opera and we got out in America with *Peggy Sue* playing on the speakers. I managed not to see Mickey Mouse."

But the man who managed to combine most people's fantasies is playwright, actor and director Steven Berkoff. He was in Los Angeles at the time of going to press but his partner, Clara Fischer, recalled jetting out to meet him in Rio de Janeiro, where he was making a film about Ronnie Biggs. "We went to a beach and celebrated with Biggs. The entire film crew was there and it was brilliant."



DES JENSON

Split personality: "I'm pretty stressed because I feel I have to be two different people," says student Raj Kelair, who had never mixed with white people before going to college

Caught in the culture trap



Few Asian girls cross the East-West divide without paying a price, says **Anjana Ahuja**

Salma Khan, a 19-year-old Bengali woman, leads a double life. At home, she is a quiet and subservient daughter, but once outside, she becomes a hipster-wearing, cigarette-smoking, trend-obsessed teenager.

"To my parents, I'm the dutiful, obedient and oh so wide-eyed and innocent daughter," she says. "At home you won't catch me in low-cut body tops or tight hipsters, or smoking . . . Yet once I leave that front door, a sudden metamorphosis occurs. Off comes the straitjacket and out comes a creative, flirtatious, impetuous hip chick."

Salma's father is a senior figure in London's Muslim Bengali community; she is expected to behave accordingly. "Sometimes I do feel trapped and conscience-stricken that I can't be open about the other side of me. I know it would break my parents' hearts and cause scandal." So the sexy PVC outfits she secretly owns remain hidden at the back of the wardrobe.

Salma's predicament may seem extreme, but thousands of Asian girls in Britain lead similar lives. While Asian parents cling desperately to traditional ideals, their children grow up with different aspirations, which they know their parents will reject. The gap is sometimes unbridgable; a double identity is often inevitable. And, since reputation is paramount, secrecy is essential.

This entrapment between two cultures is having an impact on the health of young Asians, according to a paper presented last week at the British Psychological Society. Dev Sharma, an educational psychologist at Newham Council, East London, and Dr David Jones, from Birkbeck College, London University, looked at three groups of adolescents aged between 12 and 17: 234 British Asians from Newham, 248 white British teenagers, and 242 Indian teenagers in New Delhi. They discovered that British Asian adolescents felt more pressured and constrained than their white counterparts and teenagers in India. Asian teenagers born in Britain feel that they experience more conflict in their home lives and view their parents as more authoritarian.

> 'Asian girls are three times more likely to harm themselves'

Asian girls seemed particularly anxious, and it is already known that they are up to three times more likely to harm themselves, either as a cry for help or in suicide attempts. They tend to feel less valued than sons and have lower self-esteem.

Mr Sharma was inspired to conduct the study because of a worrying rise in the number of Asian teenagers experiencing emotional problems and behavioural difficulties. He says: "There is enormous pressure for Asian teenagers to conform to cultural patterns, particularly when it comes to sexual morals and friendships between boys and girls. For example, a girl's chastity must be protected at all costs. Parents are worried that their children will stray."

He adds: "The problem is, if parents are overprotective and sensitive, children are more likely to rebel." Some of that frustration is beginning to surface. This week sees the publication of *Tell It Like It Is*, a collection of writings by young Asian women about their lives. The book touches on serious topics, such as bullying, rape and lesbianism, as well as lighter issues, such as dating, parties and people's preconceptions about Asian women. The extract on the right is from the book.

● *Telling It Like It Is: Young Asian Women Talk, edited by Nadya Kassam, The Women's Press, April 10, £4.99*

THE STUDENT

Raj Kelair, 17, is studying for A levels in English literature, psychology and media studies. She is the eldest of three sisters and lives at the family home in Southall, Middlesex. Her father is a train driver and her mother works in an old people's home. Raj hopes to become a journalist.

THE lifestyle I lead is not typical — my dad is a declared atheist. But I would say that I'm pretty stressed. It's because sometimes I feel I have to be two different people.

I am able to be myself at home and speak the language and be silly. I can relax more. It sounds amazing but before I joined college I had never had interactions with white people. It was so strange. Whereas at school I had spoken Punjabi, I now had to talk in English all the time. I would change my voice when I went out. I felt I had to talk really politely. I felt inferior talking to white people.

All my friends are Asian and we go to each other's parties because our parents know each other. Other than that, I don't really get around. It could be a lot worse. Some of my friends' parents won't let them past the front door. My father draws the line at boyfriends. I don't push my luck.

I also feel pressure because, even though nobody likes to admit it, my parents are looked down on for having three daughters. People used to come to our house and tell my parents "never mind", as if they pitied them. It was as if they were missing out by not having a son.

It was pathetic. I remember being rude to some aunties about it; my father told me off. Now I'm grateful not to have a brother as life could be worse. So I am determined to make my parents proud of me by getting a decent education.

THE JOURNALIST

Anjana Ahuja is 27, was brought up in Harlow, Essex, and now lives in London. She has one younger brother. Her father is a retired teacher and her mother is a nurse. They met and married in this country.

MY PARENTS had already faced a culture divide. My father came to Britain from a high-caste, affluent Hindu family in New Delhi, my mother from a devout Muslim family in Trinidad. The unorthodox union caused considerable unease. My mother's family were concerned that my father was not Muslim; on his side, there was an unspoken expectation that he would return to India to marry.

The cracks in the family were eventually smoothed over, but they left their mark. My father was strict in some ways, such as making us do homework, but liberal in others. There was no discrimination — my younger brother was expected to obey the same rules. If my father said no to something, he would explain why. My mother was a softening influence.

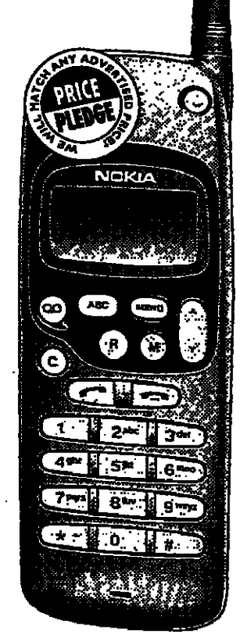
I dressed as I pleased. I was permitted to go to discos and parties, with a curfew graded according to age. He bought me a car when I was 17 so I could be independent. He was happy about me living away from home at university, and accepted the fact I would have boyfriends. As a result, I felt under a lot less pressure than many of my Asian friends. I think it was good for stability — I didn't feel I had to rebel. We were encouraged to discuss everything and express opinions. It has resulted in a very close-knit family, especially as we have no other relatives in Britain.

Many Asian fathers would faint at their daughters living with a white man, but mine was marvellous. All he wanted to know was, is he educated? Does he treat you well? Does his family accept you? And, most important of all, are you both happy? I can only feel grateful that I was not brought up as an Asian girl living in a Western society, but instead encouraged to fuse the best aspects of both cultures.



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The revolution in your head

The information age will give rise to the individual, ending the nation state, say **James Dale Davidson** and **William Rees-Mogg**

We stand at the threshold of the most sweeping revolution in history. Faster than all but a few now imagine, microprocessing will subvert and destroy the nation state, creating a new form of social organisation, the information society.

The coming transformation is both good news and bad. The good news is that the information revolution will liberate individuals as never before. For the first time, those who can educate themselves will be almost entirely free to invent their own work and realise the full benefits of their own productivity. Genius will be unleashed, freed from both the oppression of government and the drags of racial and ethnic prejudice.

In an environment where the greatest source of wealth will be the ideas you have in your head rather than physical capital alone, anyone who thinks clearly will potentially be rich. The information age will be the age of upward mobility. It will afford far more equal opportunity for the billions of humans in parts of the world that never shared fully in the prosperity of industrial society. The brightest, most successful and ambitious of these will emerge as truly sovereign individuals operating in a realm without physical existence that will nonetheless develop what promises to be the world's largest economy by the second decade of the new millennium. By 2025, the cybereconomy will have many millions of participants. Some of them will be as rich as Bill Gates, worth more than $10 billion each. The cyberpoor may be those with an income of less than $200,000 a year. There will be no cyberwelfare. No cybertaxes and no cybergovernment. The cybereconomy could well be the greatest economic phenomenon of the next 30 years.

> The greatest source of wealth will be the ideas you have

But there is bad news as well. The new organisation of society will leave individuals far more responsible for themselves than they have been accustomed to during the industrial period.

When technology is mobile and transactions occur in cyberspace, the capacity of nation states to redistribute income on a large scale will collapse. This means that you will no longer be obliged to live in a high-tax jurisdiction to earn high income. In the future, when most wealth can be earned anywhere, and even spent anywhere, governments that attempt to charge too much as the price of domicile will merely drive away their best customers.

Changes that diminish the power of predominant institutions are both unsettling and dangerous. Just as monarchs, lords, popes and potentates fought ruthlessly to preserve their accustomed privileges in the early stages of the modern period, so today's governments will employ violence, often of a covert and arbitrary kind, in the attempt to hold back the clock. But however ruthlessly governments behave, they will be increasingly required to bargain with autonomous individuals whose resources will no longer be so easily controlled.

The information revolution will not only create a fiscal crisis for governments, it will tend to disintegrate all large structures. Fourteen empires have disappeared in the 20th century. The breakdown of empires is part of a process that will dissolve the nation state. Government will have to adapt to the growing autonomy of the individual. Taxing capacity will plunge by 50 to 70 per cent. This will tend to make smaller jurisdictions more successful. The challenge of setting competitive terms to attract able individuals and their capital will be more easily undertaken in enclaves than across continents.

We believe that as the modern nation state decomposes, latter-day barbarians will increasingly try to exercise power behind the scenes. The modern barbarians have already infiltrated the forms of the nation state without greatly changing its appearance.

Groups, such as the Russian mafia, are *microparasites* feeding on a dying system. Violently unscrupulous, these groups employ the techniques of the state on a smaller scale. Their growing influence and power are part of the downsizing of politics. Efforts to contain violence will devolve in ways that depend more upon efficiency than power.

The rise of the sovereign individual will not be wholly welcomed as a promising new phase of history, even among those who benefit from it most. Everyone will feel some misgivings and many will despise innovations that undermine the territorial nation state. It is a fact of human nature that radical change is almost always seen as a turn for the worse.

There is a high probability that some who are offended by the new ways, as well as many who are disadvantaged by them, will react unpleasantly. Their nostalgia for compulsion will probably turn violent. The clash between the new and the old will shape the early years of the new millennium. We expect it to be a time of great danger and great reward, and a time of much diminished civility in some realms and unprecedented scope in others. Increasingly, autonomous individuals and bankrupt, desperate governments will confront one another across a new divide. We expect to see a radical restructuring of the nature of sovereignty and the virtual death of politics before the transition is over. You are destined to see the privatisation of almost all services governments now provide.

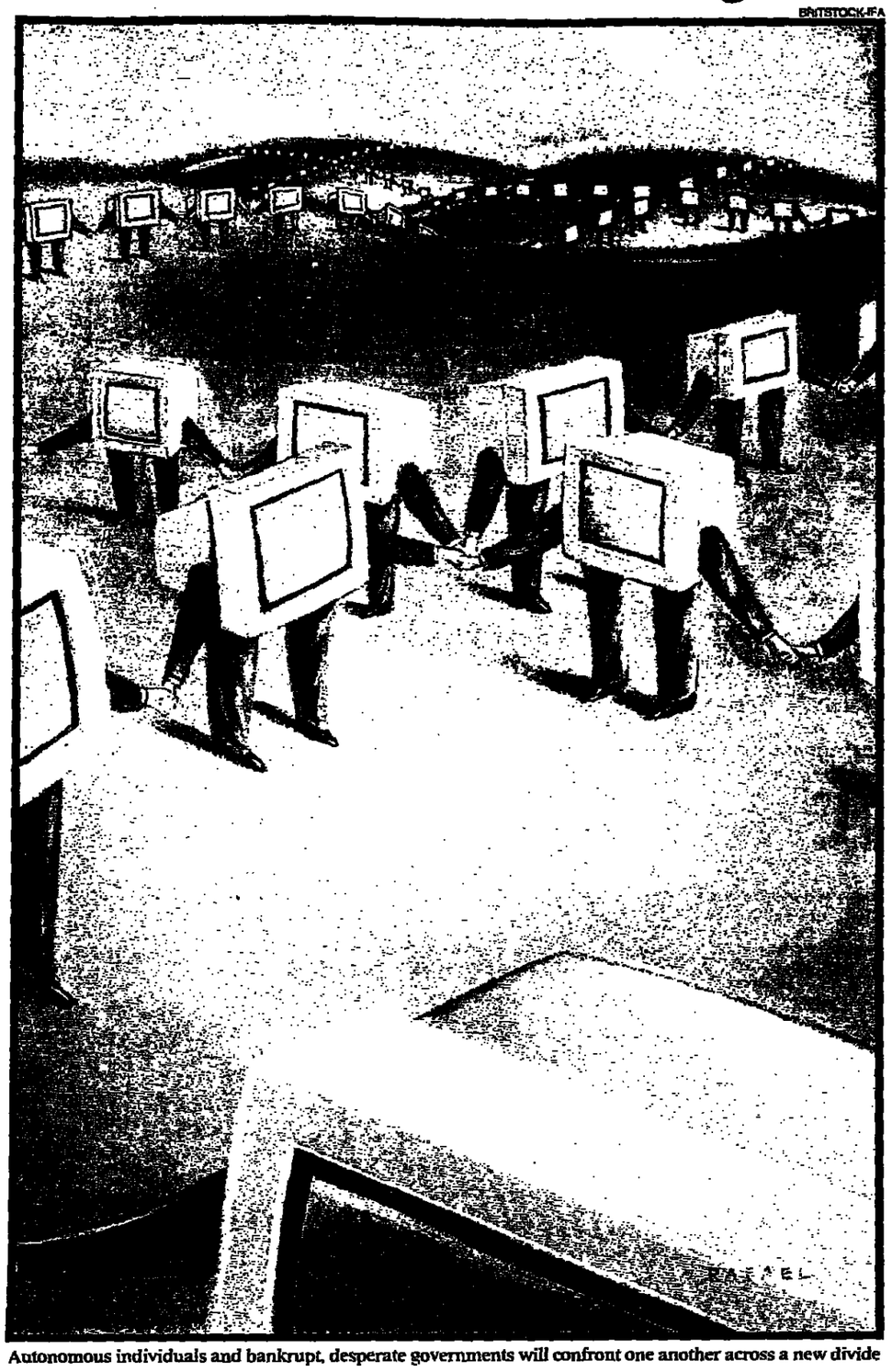
You will also see the reemergence of associations of merchants and wealthy individuals with semi-sovereign powers. Such entities will reemerge in place of the dying nation state in the new millennium, providing protection and helping to enforce contracts in an unsafe world.

In short, the future is likely to confound the expectations of those who have absorbed the civic myths of 20th-century industrial society. Among them are the illusions of social democracy. They presuppose that societies evolve in whatever way governments wish them to — preferably in response to opinion polls and scrupulously counted votes. This was never as true as it seemed 50 years ago. Now it is an anachronism, as much an artefact of industrialism as a rusting smokestack. The civic myths reflect not only a mindset that sees society's problems as susceptible to engineering solutions, they also reflect a false confidence that resources and individuals will remain as vulnerable to political compulsion in the future as they have been in the 20th century. We doubt it. Market forces, not political majorities, will compel societies to reconfigure themselves in ways that public opinion will neither comprehend nor welcome. As they do, the naive view that history is what people wish it to be will prove wildly misleading.

It will therefore be crucial that you see the world anew. That means looking from the outside to re-analyse much that you have probably taken for granted. If you fail to transcend conventional thinking at a time when conventional thinking is losing touch with reality, then you will be more likely to fall prey to an epidemic of disorientation that lies ahead. Disorientation breeds mistakes that could threaten your business, your investments and your way of life.

● The Sovereign Individual *by James Dale Davidson & William Rees-Mogg is published by Macmillan, price £20. © James Dale Davidson & William Rees-Mogg. 1997. To order a copy, p&p free, call 01624 675 137.*

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Autonomous individuals and bankrupt, desperate governments will confront one another across a new divide

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> 'You will be able to journey via virtual reality at will'

You will be able to earn credits to your account with all manner of transactions and carry your phone box with you. Your PC will be the branch office of your bank and global money brokerage. And like the smart-card pay phones that are useless to thieves if broken open with a crowbar, your computer could only be raided by someone capable of breaking or manipulating a sophisticated computer code.

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Will Martin Bell follow the Master?

An Oxford don showed Tatton the way, says **Anthony Howard**

Bizarre as it may at first appear, the decision by the Labour and Liberal Democrat parties to wheel forward the BBC war correspondent Martin Bell — "the man in the white suit" — as their anti-sleaze candidate in Tatton is not without precedent. Allowing for the contrasting mores of a different time, nearly 60 years ago much the same thing happened in Oxford City — though the political background then was projected onto a rather broader, international screen.

In September 1938, Czechoslovakia had just been sold out to Hitler in the Munich settlement, and such was the outrage that the Labour and Liberal parties in Oxford resolved to sink their differences and rally behind a "unity" candidate to oppose the Chamberlain Government's appeasement policy. A by-election was conveniently pending in the city, and their decision was made the easier because a young fellow of All Souls, who backed the Munich agreement to the hilt, had just been chosen as the Conservative candidate.

By a quirk of fate, that Tory standard-bearer was Quintin Hogg — now, for the second time, Lord Hailsham — who at the hustings had to endure the taunt that "A vote for Hogg is a vote for Hitler". (It is only fair to add that less than two years later, in May 1940, he was one of the 40 or so Tories who voted against Neville Chamberlain in the Commons Norway debate, and so brought about the formation of Winston Churchill's wartime National Government.)

> The Master of Balliol knew more about Plato than politics

Feelings over Munich ran high — and nowhere higher than in the senior common rooms of the university. At a time when academics were regarded as beyond reproach, it was the somewhat austere Master of Balliol, A.D. ("Sandy") Lindsay, who was proposed to block Mr Hogg's automatic succession to a Tory seat in the Commons. Lindsay stood as an Independent, but was referred to as the "Popular Front" candidate.

That label, with its communist connotations, was a little unfair. The prime movers in the enterprise were the local Liberals, whose candidate, Ivor Davies, took the lead in proposing that both he and his Labour opponent should stand down. The Labour candidate, Patrick Gordon Walker (who was briefly Harold Wilson's Foreign Secretary, in 1964-65), was a good deal more reluctant. He tried to assert his right, as an already endorsed party nominee, not to be pushed aside.

Eventually, however, he was frogmarched by his local party into resignation. He went angrily and resentfully — and partly because the lustre of his fame as a junior don at Christ Church was not thought likely to compare with the grandeur of a reigning Master of Balliol.

Alas, as soon became clear, the footsoldiers in the stage army of the good had made a duff choice. Lindsay was a Christian moral philosopher who knew a good deal about Plato but — unlike Martin Bell — had no claim to be a popular celebrity. He proved a hopeless candidate.

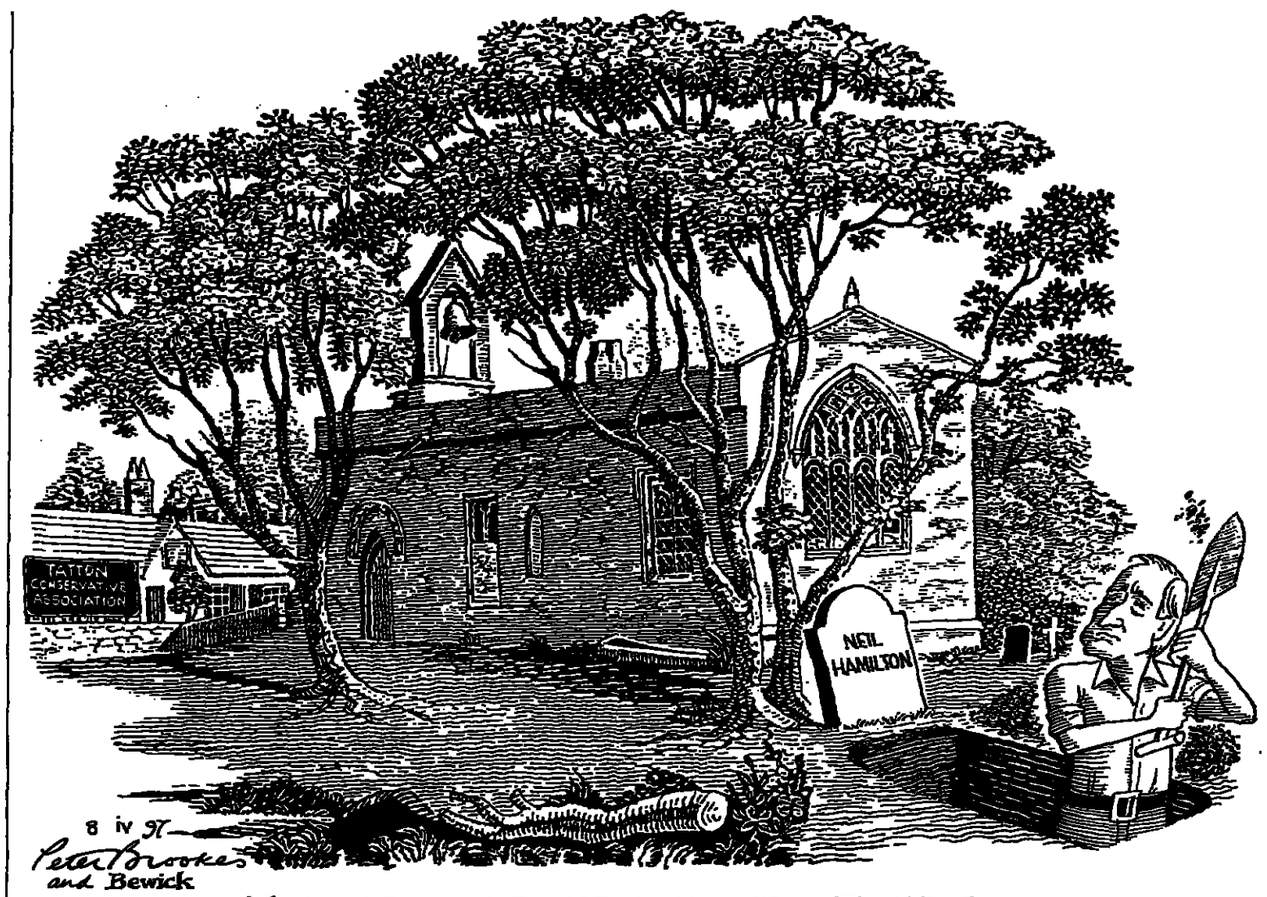
Nor were his supporters much more suited to the task in hand. In his memoirs, John Redcliffe-Maude (then a don at University College, but later an illustrious Whitehall Permanent Secretary) expressly recalled how he "hated" canvassing the landladies of Oxford and risking rejection on their doorsteps. "Our motley army of amateurs", he wrote nearly 50 years later, turned out to be "no match for the Tory machine."

No doubt, the political caravan has since moved on — and although the Labour Party was anxious from the start to emphasise that the offer of renunciation in Tatton stemmed from its candidate, it certainly was rather more enthusiastic about blessing it than were the local Liberal Democrats. That is a sharp contrast to what happened nearly 60 years ago when the Oxford City Labour Party risked being disbanded after its mutinous act in abandoning an officially selected Labour candidate. Of course, in those days party rules reigned supreme, and it is a measure of the changes that Tony Blair has wrought in softening the edges of Labour's "exclusive brethren" tendencies that the party rule-book should look a good deal less sacrosanct today.

Nevertheless, it is hard not to feel that the idea of a single issue candidate — especially when dressed up in the costume of "Mr Clean" — is fraught. For the record, despite the support of such Tories as Harold Macmillan, Randolph Churchill and a then young Conservative President of the Union called Edward Heath, Sandy Lindsay lost the Oxford by-election by nearly 3,500 votes. He never stood for Parliament again.

Oddly enough, it was his lack of appetite for political combat that proved his undoing. His fatal blunder was widely taken to be his public promise that if elected he would call it a day and not stand at the next election. That was thought to display a frivolous attitude towards the electorate, confirming the impression that his campaign was a gimmick.

Strikingly, three weeks later at another by-election, at Bridgwater in Somerset, a candidate much more similar to Martin Bell gave no such undertaking. He was the 1930s foreign affairs broadcaster and *News Chronicle* columnist Vernon Bartlett. He not only won the by-election by 2,312 votes, but went on to hold the seat by an almost identical majority in face of a Labour as well as a Conservative candidate at the general election of 1945. And how do they feel in Millbank Tower, one cannot help asking, about a precedent such as that?



FOR WHOM MARTIN BELL TOLLS...

New Labour is very old

Ross McKibbin says Tony Blair's party resembles that of Ramsay MacDonald

If Labour wins the coming election it will be for two reasons: because it is not the Conservative Party, and because it is not very different from the Conservative Party. Yet, while that might be a good way of winning this election, it is a terrible way of winning the next. As he approaches the election, Mr Blair has one great advantage and one great disadvantage, but at the moment he is in danger of dissipating the first and being overwhelmed by the second. The advantage is that he was elected as an old Labour MP, and remained one. He thus became leader of a party powerfully entrenched in British society, particularly in the cities, the North, Scotland and Wales: indeed, the only party to win a parliamentary majority in the three constituent parts of Great Britain since 1945, and the only one likely to do so again.

His great disadvantage is that he is fighting the election within a political system and on policies which have been designed — quite consciously — by the Tories for their benefit. Even if the unpopularity of the present Government and the traditions and residual social strength of the Labour Party yield him a majority — it does not matter whether themajority is ten or 200 — the political and ideological configuration of Margaret Thatcher's Britain will, unless he changes tack, prevent him from doing anything with it. The result is that, at the moment, new Labour, by comparison with old, is incoherent.

Old Labour had all the familiar aims of traditional social democracy: an emphasis on the collective, on equality, on a rational political discourse, on the redistribution of power and wealth, on social and economic modernisation and a sense that the nation exists only to the extent that its poorest feel part of it. New Labour has been very successful in expoiting the apparent incompatibility between the programme of traditional social democracy and late-20th-century British society. The abandonment of virtually all the components of old Labour has been justified on grounds of social and economic change. Old Labour no longer "fits" contemporary Britain, but new Labour does.

This argument has two blemishes. The first is that the question of increasingly unequal distribution of power and wealth remains central to our political life. The second is that new Labour has adopted not the best but the worst of old Labour. And very old Labour: the Labour Party under Mr Blair more closely resembles the party of Ramsay MacDonald and Philip Snowden than one kitted out for the 1990s.

The most obvious characteristic it shares with very old Labour is timidity and a wish to be thought acceptable by the existing élites. The assertion that Labour is no longer a "tax-and-spend" party, apart from writing off all postwar Labour Governments, is simply untrue. The question is *who* is taxed and on *whom* and *what* the money is spent. The average family now pays more in tax than in 1979; the average plutocrat very much less. The argument, explicitly made by new Labour, that "tax-and-spend" Labour Governments were "disasters" is wholly fallacious. Is it seriously suggested that the non-taxing and non-spending interwar Labour Governments were less "disastrous" than those after 1945? Mr Blair's interpretation of Labour history could prove fatal, since it only confirms in the popular mind the view of the Labour Party as seen from Central Office and the tabloid press.

> New Labour has adopted the worst aspects of old Labour — and of very old Labour

The deference offered to conventional opinion, as with Ramsay MacDonald's Governments, will be equally fatal. Labour, for instance, was lucky to escape the fiasco of the exchange-rate mechanism as lightly as it did. It supported the Government's foolish decision to enter the ERM at the highest rate, and had nothing to say when the inevitable happened. Had Labour won the 1992 election, we would now be wondering whether it would win any seats this year; and all because of a desire to adhere to the wisdom of the Treasury. Gordon Brown should remember that the last Labour Chancellor to be called the "Iron Chancellor" was Philip Snowden, who, while he was being lionised by the City, was leading Labour diretly to the election of 1931, in which, if Mr Brown has forgotten, Labour won 52 seats.

New Labour also shares with very old Labour a fear of power and an extreme reluctance to practise legislative coercion. No political party can achieve anything without offending or coercing someone. The only people new Labour appears unafraid to offend are members of the Labour Party.

Like the Labour Party of the 1920s, new Labour has no strategy for dealing with well-placed opposition. Labour leaders apparently awake every morning terrified by what the tabloids might have to say. But we do not know how effective as managers of opinion the tabloids are. On the one occasion when a politician (Stanley Baldwin) has seriously taken them on, he won hands down. What does not work is the attempt to anticipate the tabloids. It demeans those who do it, demoralises Labour and leads to a Dutch auction that in the long run only the Tories can win. And *The Sun*'s apparent decision to support Mr Blair in the election in no way undermines the force of this argument. A Labour government could tell them to get lost without too much damage, while a really determined government could go much further than that.

But new Labour is not very good either at educating the electorate or at thinking rationally. It is anxious to win and wishes to rock as few boats as possible. This, however, commits Labour to the irrationality and irresponsibility of the tabloid culture, to policies which much of the British élite know to be irrational or irresponsible but which they are too cynical or frightened to abandon. Mr Brown has landed Labour in a real impasse: underexpenditure on things which matter and over-expenditure on things which don't.

In only one respect does new Labour genuinely make up for the deficiencies of old: it is readier to undertake institutional and constitutional reform. Nowhere was old Labour's failure more disastrous than here. This presents new Labour with a crucial opportunity which, again, is likely to be missed. Caution is unsurprising, but not the half-heartedness of the whole thing.

We are living through the rapid decay of a once viable system of the social relationships that shaped a political culture itself now played out. The institutions of State are not exempt from this decay. The Labour Party has been slower to come to terms with this than the Conservatives. Thatcherism was an authoritarian attempt to restore the old political culture. That the attempt has largely succeeded is partly due to Labour's failure to challenge it. Yet in the wreckage of the old system and in the unintended consequences of Thatcherism there is democratic potential. However, a democratic political culture cannot simply emerge: it has to be willed. This means the democratic "reformation" both of Parliament and of the electoral system. Labour is not free to treat this as though it were something for the next term, or never. It is indispensable.

At present, however, each step in new Labour's progress represents a faltering. The increasingly aggressive and mean-minded attitude to the poor and the unemployed, the hounding of teachers, the bullying attitude to schools whose failings are largely the failings of their environments, the clear reluctance to rehabilitate local education authorities (as in the opted-out schools), or even to spend more on education, are all retreats from a democratic society at a time when the possibility of such a society is greater than at any time since the 1940s.

All this might be the purest pessimism. A victorious new Labour might find the courage to take on the tabloids, might create a democratic system, might recognise that the hard-faced Judaeo-Christian piety that dominates the thinking of much of the political élite is not shared by all the electorate. But there is little sign that it will. The contrast between the way Labour is approaching the 1997 election and the way it faced that of 1945 could not be more painful. This is doubly tragic. Unless a new Labour government behaves very differently, it will not only fail, but will have no second chance.

The author is a historian of the Labour Party and a fellow of St John's College, Oxford. A longer version of this article appears in the current London Review of Books.

There is no black hole

Privatisation isn't a moneyspinner, says **Anatole Kaletsky**

For once, the anonymous Tory "senior minister" had a point. "If they panic like this when they are 20 points ahead, what would happen if it was neck-and-neck?" he remarked yesterday to our Political Editor, after Tony Blair had confirmed that Labour has performed a U-turn in its policy on privatisation. Labour now seems determined to match the Tory plans to raise £1.5 billion next year by selling government assets. That Mr Blair should want to avoid exposing any Achilles' heel to the Tories' economic attacks is understandable; but in panicking so abjectly in the face of Tory claims about a "black hole" in Labour's spending plans, the party's leaders have displayed a disturbing lack of fortitude and economic understanding. This political spinelessness could prove far more dangerous to Britain than anything in the economic substance of the Tories' essentially trivial and trumped-up charges.

The fact is that there is no "black hole" in Labour's spending plans, and never has been. Gordon Brown knows this and so does Kenneth Clarke. But instead of challenging the Tories and offering a rational explanation of this admittedly rather arcane subject, Mr Brown has backed down and taken refuge in confusion — which bodes badly for his credibility with financial markets and suggests there may be many more retreats in the contests that lie ahead for him with the Treasury, the Bank of England, the unions, the Cabinet and Europe's Council of Ministers.

Since Mr Brown refuses to do so, let me explain why there is no hole in Labour's spending plans. First, Labour does not *have* any public spending plans for the Tories to find holes in. Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, has made it clear that he will stick to the spending targets already announced by Kenneth Clarke for this year and next. This is perfectly reasonable, if only because it is now too late to change departmental budgets for 1997-98 or to make more than a marginal impact on the plans for the following financial year.

Whether Labour can enforce the tight budgets envisaged by Mr Clarke is, of course, another matter. Mr Brown will certainly have a tough time fending off demands for higher wages and for emergency funding in the health service. But the possibility that Labour may end up bowing to pressures and spending more than the budget allowed (as the Tories themselves have done in four out of the last five years) has nothing to do with a "gap" left by abandoning privatisations. This leads to the second and more important reason why the alleged "black hole" is a canard.

Abandoning privatisations would not leave a gap in Labour's budget, because the sale of state assets does not reduce public spending. If anything, privatisation tends to increase public spending in the long term. Imagine, for example, that a government building is sold to a property company for £100 million. The offices then have to be leased back at a rising rent, starting at perhaps £6 million a year. This extra rent must be offset against the reduction in interest payments by the Treasury when the £100 million of privatisation proceeds are used to pay off a small part of the national debt. This interest reduction would currently be around £7.5 million — resulting in a small net saving of £1.5 million a year to the Exchequer. But eventually the rising rent on the office building would probably overtake the £7.5 million in reduced interest costs, resulting in a higher level of total public spending in the long term.

Privatisation does not even provide money that can fund tax cuts or pay for public spending programmes. This is a lesson that British politicians, investors and voters should have learnt from the Lawson boom and Major bust, when the vast proceeds from selling profitable state industries *were* used to support current spending, with disastrous results — first by Nigel Lawson, to finance his inflationary tax cuts, and then by Mr Major, to pay for the public spending binge of our period in the exchange-rate mechanism.

The City has drawn the appropriate lessons, and no longer views privatisation proceeds as a form of "negative public spending". Instead, privatisation is recognised for what it is: an exchange of financial paper which may or may not be preferable to selling government bonds, depending on the precise arrangements made for managing the assets sold. The Treasury, to its credit, is also increasingly taking this view. Influenced partly by the Maastricht treaty, which ignores the quirky British definition of public sector borrowing, Treasury policy now rightly focuses on the government financial deficit — a figure which treats privatisation in exactly the same way as an increase in public borrowing.

Privatisation is often a good idea if it results in more efficient management of state assets. But the merits of privatisation are all about the quality of management. They have nothing to do with reducing public spending, paying for tax cuts or plugging black holes.

In the can

TATTON'S gain is Jill Dando's loss. *The Holiday Programme*, which Dando fronts for the BBC, has been forced to drop a package on Croatia because it is presented by the constituency's new anti-corruption candidate, Martin Bell.

Bell's enthusiasm for Croatian folk-dancing, for the architectural heritage of Dubrovnik and for its slivovitz plum brandy could sway voting intentions in Tatton, argues the corporation. One BBC man talked of the potential "subliminal influence" of the new sleaze-free, independent candidate, whose skip through Croatia's tourist facilities was due to be broadcast tonight.

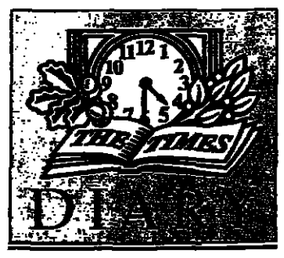
"When we are notified that correspondents are to stand for Parliament, they are immediately put on unpaid leave for the duration of the campaign," said a spokesman. "Anything they have done that could be deemed to be supportive of their campaign cannot be transmitted."

Suggestions that the BBC might maintain its impartiality by enlisting Neil Hamilton to present a Paris package, taking in such institutions as the Ritz, have fallen on deaf ears. Instead, viewers will be treated to a presentation by the sleazeless gardening writer, Monty Don, as he chases polar bears through the Canadian tundra.

● *Come polling day, Camden Council will be breaking electoral law by displaying directions for their voters in Greek, Urdu, Gujarati, and even Braille. The only language other than English permitted for display in a polling station is Welsh. But the council says: "The law is an ass as far as elections are concerned and it is about time it moved out of the 18th century."*



"I'm canvassing on behalf of Martin Bell"



Full span

LAST WORD on the wedding on Sunday of Alan Greenspan, the head of America's Federal Reserve, and TV reporter Andrea Mitchell. When the deed was done, Greenspan gave his new bride a long and deep schnnogg. "A very passionate kiss," was how one wedding guest, Al Hunt, put it. General Colin Powell, who was close by, called it "a moment of sensual exuberance — very un-Greenspanish".

The groom, who wore a pinstripe suit for the big day, is known by the new Mrs Greenspan as "sweet pea". Yesterday Greenspan himself was back on earth, reporting bang on time to his office, having decided that a honeymoon would be an inflationary measure.

● *Missing from Wembley's Royal Box during the Coca-Cola Cup Final on Sunday was Tom Pendry, the Shadow Minister for Sport. His tickets to the match were in his car at Aintree, where he had spent the previous afternoon, and he couldn't get at them in time because of the bomb scare.*

Lette it be

EARL SPENCER'S sun-lounging afternoons by the swimming pool in Cape Town's Constantia suburb are to be interrupted by a visitor more colourful than bougainvillea, spikier than an African thorn.

Kathy Lette, the Australian novelist, is shortly to embark on a book promotion tour in South Africa, and unbeknown to Spencer, she has him firmly in her sights: "I don't know where I will be staying," she says, "but I do have an introduction to Charlie, and have been told that he is very hospitable." Before offering up his shower-mat for her, Spencer should be warned of Miss Lette's crusading bent. "They are all so sexist in South Africa," she says, "I intend to knock the masculine stuffing out of them."





Ken Clarke: from the blow-dry to the greased back

● *The talk in Vail, Colorado, concerns the unveiling of a picture of Diana, Princess of Wales, by local artist Packy Walker. For a frame he claims to have used the lavatory seat on which she sat during her flight with Northwest Airlines to the skiing resort two years ago. He says he nipped into the loo towards the end of the flight, saw his "frame" and made off with it.*

Swept away

THERE is a touch of the Vidal Sassoons about Ken Clarke these days. For Sunday's televised debate between the Chancellor and his opposition numbers, he appeared with his hair dark and slicked back, looking like the old film star Jack Hawkins. Stick him in a boiler suit and he would have looked quite the militant shop-floor strike leader.

Rewind, however, to March 18, and see how he appeared at an early election press conference: hair wisping across his forehead like desert grass, bouncy and light in texture and colour.

Either he had spent too much time in the sun — unlikely in one who prefers the stouty dark of a pub — or else he had endured a losing tussle with the henna bottle in the shower.

P·H·S

EURO OR BUST

The next Prime Minister faces the worst of both worlds

The world will not wait for British general election campaigns. While the party leaders spent the weekend pronouncing on their relative deservedness of public trust, European Union finance ministers met in Noordwijk, The Netherlands. That agenda was dominated by detailed issues of how the single currency would be implemented. Those conclusions will prove vital to the nature of monetary union. This issue will overshadow the politics of the next Parliament regardless of who holds power or whether this country participates in it.

The most significant aspect of the meeting was not the communiqué but the comments afterwards from Theo Waigel, Germany's finance minister. It has looked increasingly likely that his country will overshoot the official public borrowing figure — no more than 3 per cent of gross domestic product — and hence fail to meet the convergence criteria of the Maastricht treaty. Until now Bonn has been in the vanguard of upholding those rules. On Sunday night Herr Weigel declared that he had "never nailed myself to the cross of 3 per cent". The clear implication of those remarks is that Germany expects to be included in monetary union from the outset, even if its economic performance has not satisfied the formal requirements.

Germany has shifted its stance because it fears that the alternative to a selective fudge of the convergence criteria is a delay in launching the euro. Any alteration of the original timetable, Chancellor Kohl believes, might lead to the collapse of the whole enterprise. Germany would prefer to meet the Maastricht conditions but if it cannot, then it will argue that special circumstances — the unique costs of unification — should be considered in its favour. To offset such short-term difficulties, Bonn has succeeded in strengthening the sanctions that will apply to countries inside the single currency that exercise poor fiscal management.

The end result is that the euro is now more probable but less plausible. If Germany is permitted a margin for error on its budget deficit, and France continues to engage, unobstructed, in creative accounting, then the rules as redefined will be met and the euro initiated on time. It will inspire less credibility as a consequence. Unification certainly has brought extra costs to Bonn and there is no special significance attached to a particular deficit figure. Once, however, one "special exemption" is acknowledged it will become harder to resist other pleas. A stronger stability pact will inspire little confidence if the single currency starts life as the creature of political convenience.

All of this should make Europe even more saliant to the electorate. John Major and Tony Blair have each claimed that the single currency is unlikely to emerge on schedule and thus there is no need for an immediate decision. That is clearly not the case. Both parties have suggested that there is uncertainty about the character of monetary union. That is also far less true. There are few reasons of fact rather than faction which would now prevent a party from fully declaring its position. Robin Cook's sceptical comments about EMU entry in the next Parliament, apparently authorised by Tony Blair, have all but eliminated the remaining space between Labour and the Conservatives. This still leaves an ambiguity gap between politicians and public.

Whether or not Britain enters a single currency is only part of the picture the next Prime Minister will face. Britain will hold the EU presidency in May 1998 when final judgment must be made on which countries are qualified for monetary union. That meeting will either endorse a selective fudge or uphold the original conditions. It is a choice that could shape Europe's economy for decades. Chancellor Kohl has decided that it is the euro in 1999 or bust. The most important challange facing John Major or Tony Blair is to ensure it is not both.

THE PRICE OF LOYALTY

Tatton Conservatives look set to discredit themselves

The tradition of local autonomy in the Conservative Party is a noble one. But it is a freedom that brings with it responsibilities. Tonight the whole country will be watching to see whether the Tory association in Tatton is prepared to exercise those responsibilities in its own interests and the interests of the party to which it belongs.

Loyal supporters of Neil Hamilton cannot relish the limelight that has been shone upon themselves, their candidate and their constituency. But it is the actions of their candidate, and their blind attachment to him, that have brought this problem upon them. If they hoped that, after the first few days of the campaign, the issue of "sleaze" would go away, they were wrong.

Now that Martin Bell, the BBC war correspondent, has announced his intention to stand on an "anti-corruption" slate in the place of the Labour and Liberal Democrat candidates, Mr Hamilton's misdemeanours are once more in the headlines. But Tatton's Tory candidate is shameless in his refusal to be embarrassed either about his own position or the effect of this affair on his party at large. He seems determined to brazen it out. So, if he will not fall on his sword, he will have to be pushed.

Yet most members of his association are doing their best to ensure that this does not happen. They take Mr Hamilton's protestations of innocence at face value. They ignore the revelations of his self-incriminating evidence to Sir Gordon Downey, or dismiss them as no more than the propaganda of a left-wing media campaign. They seem determined not to hold a secret ballot tonight, even though this practice is now the universally accepted method of taking democratic decisions.

This newspaper has argued that Mr Hamilton should stand down. We are not part of an orchestrated left-wing conspiracy. We merely believe that, on the basis of what Mr Hamilton has already admitted, he no longer deserves to be a Member of Parliament. Others in a similar position have done the decent thing and resigned. Mr Hamilton should not be allowed to profit from his lack of shame. Those activists who still revere Mr Hamilton may have deliberately shielded themselves from the evidence of his wrongdoings. Once they start knocking on doors in Tatton, they will discover how many stalwart Tories are unwilling to support Mr Hamilton. These voters may well turn to Mr Bell instead.

The result could be worse than the loss of a safe Conservative seat to an independent. If Mr Hamilton is allowed to fight on, the national electorate will be reminded for the rest of the campaign that the Tories are the party accused of sleaze. What better ammunition could Labour have to support its best argument — that it is time for a change?

We do not want to believe that the Tatton Conservative Association is filled with blind loyalist whose political judgment reflects only the force of Mr Hamilton's personality. If they adopt him tonight, however, that will be the conclusion that we, and most of the rest of the country, will be forced to reach. Loyalty may in the past have been the Tories' secret weapon; it is about to inflict on the party a grievous wound.

NATIONAL DAY

Democracy was the real winner at Aintree

It did not matter whether it was done well, all that mattered was that it was done at all. Yesterday's running of the one hundred and fiftieth Grand National did not, could not, recapture the festive air that was lost on Saturday with two rasped codewords. Yet as a celebration of stoicism and *sang froid*, as well as a rebuff to the republicans, it was worth all the the effort. The IRA may have been able to ruin the weekend for tens of thousands with a coward's call. But what they disrupted they could not destroy. The presence of the Princess Royal and thousands of other racegoers was a defiant rejoinder to the republicans' cynicism. The sacrifices made by Liverpool's police and people meant the race could be run and the punters, crumpled but unbowed, could enjoy the bittersweet pleasure of enriching the bookmakers while knowing that the day's real winner was democracy.

The Englishman's diary is a sporting almanac. His seasons are marked by the subtle changes from flat to steeplechase and pitch to square as much as those from pink blossom to green leaf then gold. In the calendar certain dates are sacred. From the Boat Race through the FA Cup Final to Wimbledon the sporting year has its rhythm, as traditional yet compelling as the progress of thoroughbred over fence.

Some of the occasions, Henley perhaps or Ascot, have an exclusive air about them but others earn a place in the diaries of all. The Grand National, like the Derby but with more drama, is pre-eminently such a day. By striking at one of the most democratic festivals of the sporting season the IRA were not aiming a blow at the British Establishment which they mistakenly fantasise is their oppressor, but at the innocent citizens of all these islands.

Their own countrymen, as much as anyone, will have grieved to see the race cancelled and delighted to see it revived. Despite the efforts of extremists and a history of misunderstanding far more unites than divides the Irish and the English. Not the least of the ties that still bind is the appreciation of bloodstock and the attraction of betting. Shared perceptions of rural Ireland and England at their most idyllic and intertwined come from the saddle, whether of Somerville and Ross or Surtees and Trollope. The presence of so many Irish, as jockeys, trainers or punters at yesterday's race was more eloquent of the true state of relations between the peoples on either side of the Irish Sea than any IRA statement.

The quiet victory of normality in the face of severe testing was particularly happily embodied by Tony Dobbin's triumph on Lord Gyllene. A horse that has suffered more than its share of knocks shook off past injuries to give the audience, at Aintree and beyond, a handsome finish. There will have been more losers than winners among the weary racegoers who returned home last night. But all those who saw their betting slips turn worthless in their hands should console themselves with the knowledge that, even more than with any lottery flutter, their gamble played a small part in safeguarding our heritage and securing our future.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Jews in Jerusalem and Arab boycott

From the Director of the Britain Israel Public Affairs Centre

Sir, Sir Cyril Townsend's assertion (letter, April 3) that the Jewish population of Jerusalem grew "from zero to around 170,000" since 1967 requires correction.

In 1870 the population was 22,000, of whom 11,000 were Jews, 6,500 Muslims and 4,500 Christians. Since at least 1875 Jews have constituted an absolute majority. In 1967 74.2 per cent were Jews and 25.8 per cent Arabs. Today, the total population is 560,000, of whom 405,000 are Jews and 155,000 Muslims or Christian Arabs.

Sir Cyril's reference to "zero" Jewish population presumably relates to the period 1948-67, when Jerusalem was ruled by Jordan and all Jewish residents of the eastern sector were forcibly expelled.

When Jerusalem returned to Jewish control in 1967, Jews rebuilt their homes in the Old City (which, along with all their synagogues, had been destroyed) and other areas where they had lived.

In the construction in Har Homa 75 per cent of the land that was legally expropriated by the Israeli Government had been in Jewish ownership.

Sir Cyril is correct, however, in his assertion that "every Israeli Government since 1967 has declared that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel". It is, and always has been, at the centre of Jewish spiritual and physical longing.

Yours sincerely,
HELEN DAVIS,
Director,
Britain Israel Public Affairs Centre,
Drayton House,
30 Gordon Street, WC1.
April 3.

From the Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Group for Israel

Sir, The resolution of 22 Arab foreign ministers in Cairo to halt the process of normalisation with Israel and restate the Arab League-sponsored primary boycott represented a self-defeating policy. Your editorial, "Shameful isolation" (April 1), was therefore as timely as it was welcome.

If implemented, such measures would impact negatively on many of the states that previously were sufficiently emboldened by the new climate to have the courage to establish trade links with Israel. They commenced this trade not as a reward for the peace process but correctly out of profound economic self-interest.

The Arab world generally has much to gain from Israel's high-tech industries and know-how. Israel in turn can gain much from the skills and resources of the countries around it.

Trade is an essential glue of good relations between states and the British Government, no less than the British business community, should be in the vanguard of promoting that ideal in the Middle East.

British companies trading with Israel and the countries surrounding it should understand that the resolution in Cairo is not directed at or applicable to them. It is an area where British companies are expanding. They should be encouraged to make greater efforts now, when tensions are high and morale may be low; then, when the peace process moves to a more robust and warmer phase, the dividends to these companies could be enormous.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW STONE,
Chairman,
British Overseas Trade
Group for Israel,
PO Box 2283,
Accurist House, 44 Baker Street, W1.
April 3.

Tax self-assessment

From Mr Paul Carlier

Sir, The Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICA) seems to be trying to frighten members of the public into unnecessarily engaging an accountant to assist with the completion of their self-assessed tax returns (report, April 5; see also Weekend Money, same day).

Most returns will be relatively simple to calculate and will involve little extra effort beyond supplying the information which had to be provided in any case under the old system. Indeed, for the first time at least, one has the option of performing the calculations oneself or allowing the tax inspector to do so. I do not believe, despite what we are told about the level of numeracy in this country, that some simple arithmetic is beyond the scope of the average individual.

Surely most people already calculate their tax liability themselves without difficulty from the data on their returns as an independent check on the tax inspector, as I have always done?

I believe that organisations such as the Advertising Standards Authority and the Consumers Association have quite rightly criticised the use of scaremongering material to sell products such as burglar alarms, and I do not see why the ICA should be allowed to get away with this tactic.

I should add that I am in no way connected with the Inland Revenue. Neither, as you may have guessed, am I an accountant.

Yours faithfully,
P. C. CARLIER,
24 Beaumont Park,
Danbury, Chelmsford, Essex.
April 7.

Power, 'paranoia' and Freemasons

From the Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England

Sir, It would have been pleasant if Patrick Stevens ("On the square, but are they on the level?", Law, April 1; see also letters, April 5) had stuck to facts about Freemasonry. He was kind enough to record that he has "never come across any direct evidence of Masons using their connections improperly", but that did not prevent him from garnishing his article with hearsay and innuendo, or from repeating the old basic misconception that Freemasons have no purpose other than furthering the interests of other Freemasons.

Every Freemason knows from before he becomes a member of a lodge that he must not use his membership to promote his own or anyone else's business, professional or personal interests. He is reminded of it again and again in his early Masonic life, and he knows that if he breaks the rule he may be suspended from his lodges or even expelled from Freemasonry.

This underlying fact of Masonic life is entirely compatible with the obligations of anyone involved in the law, and for anyone to suggest that the judges, magistrates, police officers and lawyers who are Freemasons are bound to forsake their public duty is to impugn their integrity. They, and Freemasons in every other walk of life, know that obedience to the law and loyalty to the organisation they work for take priority over any inclination to help their friends.

Mr Stevens's instances and his conclusion echo the Home Affairs Committee's recent report, which for most of its 56 paragraphs approves of Grand Lodge's efforts to encourage Freemasons to be more open about their membership and to help authority investigate serious allegations that Masonic connections have been misused.

The committee's final paragraph alleges that Freemasonry is a secret society and that one of its aims is the advancement of its member's interests. This paragraph does not follow the facts in the committee's report, and does much to perpetuate the unjustified paranoia about Freemasonry which it observes is a factor in the public's perception. Its recommendation about registration of a spare-time interest by a minority group imperils the right in a free society to join or be a member of a lawful association — a most shocking implication for personal liberty in this country.

Freemasons' spending on charity (over £13 million last year) comes from the pockets of Freemasons (and their families and friends); we do not ask the general public to contribute to our funds. If Mr Stevens does not notice our community buses or our donations to hospices and other charitable concerns, it may be because good news does not sell newspapers.

Mr Stevens's allegation that "the religious and moral basis of Freemasonry is slight" is quite unfounded. Our first and continuing requirement is that Freemasons should believe in God, and all the message of our ceremonies underline the fact that Freemasonry is concerned with moral and spiritual values.

Yours sincerely,
M. B. S. HIGHAM,
Grand Secretary,
United Grand Lodge of England,
Freemasons' Hall
Great Queen Street, WC2.
April 7.

Bomb hoaxes

From Mr B. C. J. Warnes

Sir, How I agree with your correspondent, Mr Kenneth Hoole, today about war-time bombing. The authorities, for understandable reasons, may be trying to over-protect us.

There should be an announcement that bombs may be present — eg, on a motorway or at a sporting event. Give those who want to leave time to clear, and ensure firmly the rest know they continue to use the area "at their own risk".

Leave it to the individual's best judgment, which is usually the most inwardly satisfying (and least patronising) in the long run, anyway. And of course this completely defeats terrorist strategy.

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN WARNES,
The Coach House,
50a Blackheath Park, SE3.
April 7.

From Mr John Kenny

Sir, What is the answer, asks Mr Hoole, to the problem of bomb hoaxes? Is there not some possibility of forming an independent team of experienced risk assessors to take responsibility for sifting out credible bomb threats from those which are simply malicious?

It is quite understandable that those entrusted locally with the safety of large crowds will not take any chances of being blamed for deaths or injuries and will thus be ultra-cautious in their actions. But if large-scale road diversions, railway closures and the evacuation of premises are to take place every time a bomb threat is received by people inexperienced in differentiating the bogus from the real, then this country will swiftly grind to a halt.

A far better balance clearly needs to be struck between the need to protect the public from terrorist attack and the need to ensure the public's right to travel and spectate in comfort.

Sincerely yours,
JOHN KENNY,
38 Beaumont Road, SW19.
April 7.

Last charge

From Mr John Lockwood

Sir, A number of claims have been made in your columns (letters, March 31, April 5) over what is generally considered to be the last cavalry charge mounted by the British Army. I have no doubt myself that the last took place in Syria on June 12, 1941.

The Queen's Own Yorkshire Dragoons, together with the Cheshire Yeomanry, were ordered to clear Vichy French from a hilltop at Soueida. It was decided that a charge was the only way to seize the objective and a thousand men thundered across a plain to drive out the Vichy French.

It is not an occasion I am likely to forget since, as a Farrier Sergeant serving in "C" Squadron of the Dragoons, I took part in that charge. Miraculously, although we were fired on by the French, there were no deaths and casualties to both men and horses were light. But a charge it most certainly was.

Next Thursday, April 10, 31 of us who took part in the charge, including the "C" Company Squadron Commander, Simon Green, who went on to command the Yeomanry, will attend our annual reunion in Doncaster. We will have no doubts about the date of the last cavalry charge by the British Army.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN LOCKWOOD,
The Haven, Broad Oak,
West Hill, Ottery St Mary, Devon.

Election debate

From Colonel J. H. McGuinness

Sir, I am surprised that it should be thought that many people would be interested in seeing Mr Major and Mr Blair in an election debate. Many of us have seen them on numerous occasions, confronting each other across the floor of the House of Commons, without being either amused or edified.

May I suggest that it would be far more interesting if each of them appeared separately to debate with Sir James Goldsmith the question of our future relationship with the European Union.

That is, surely, by far the most important question of the day and it is noticeable that the two aforementioned party leaders generally appear reluctant to discuss it.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES McGUINNESS,
Pen-y-Bont Fach,
Cynwyd, Corwen, Denbighshire.
April 4.

Full disclosure?

From Mr Simon Pettet

Sir, Claimants of means-tested benefits who fail to declare earnings not only face having to repay those benefits, sometimes years after the event, but also the possibility of criminal proceedings.

Two MPs have made retrospective payments to the Inland Revenue having presumably failed to declare earnings on previous tax returns (report, March 27).

Should those who seek to deprive the public purse of tax by making incomplete statements on tax returns not face similar criminal proceedings to those making incomplete statements on benefit claims?

Yours faithfully,
SIMON PETTET
(Welfare rights adviser),
11 Capstone Place,
Bournemouth, Dorset.
April 2.

Prisons and crime

From Mr Harold Mitchell

Sir, Mr Martin Wargent (letter, March 31) states that the key to understanding the issue of whether offenders spared prison sentences are more likely to return to crime lies in the predicted likelihood of reoffending. He claims that probation research shows that supervision in the community produces better results than statistically predicted.

That surely is not the point. David Maclean, the junior Home Office Minister, quoted actual recidivism rates (report, March 24) — not predicted ones. The actual rate showed that those sent to prison reoffended less than those given community sentences. If, however, judges and magistrates choose to ignore this fact, is it any wonder that the Home Secretary and the public believe them to be misguided?

One thing is certain. Crime cannot be controlled by lenient sentences or ignoring the facts.

Yours faithfully,
HAROLD MITCHELL,
38 Clevegate, Nunthorpe,
Middlesbrough, Cleveland.
April 1.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Role models and the gender gap

From Mr W. J. Woodward

Sir, John O'Leary ("Boys, it's a chronic decline of phonics", Education, April 4) reported on Dr Bonnie Macmillan's intriguing theory about the root cause of the growing gender gap in educational performance. Both seem to start from the position that, in Mr O'Leary's words, "Young girls have always done better than boys, mainly, it is thought, because they mature more quickly". Dr Macmillan now attributes boys' increasing failure to catch up with an under-use of phonics since the 1980s.

There is a more alarming possibility and one which, if valid, would take much longer to correct. Since the mid-1980s there have been more than ten times as many women as men entering the teaching profession in the primary sector and more than twice as many in the secondary sector. This contrasts with the mid-1960s, when there were more men teachers than women in the secondary sector, albeit three times as many women than men in the primary sector.

Could it be that only recently has the secondary sector provided predominantly female role models, whereas the primary sector has always so provided? This might explain not only the current failure of boys to close the gender gap but also its initial existence.

Yours etc,
W. J. WOODWARD,
Kaadan, High Easter Road,
Leaden Roding, Dunmow, Essex.
April 4.

From Dr Julia Matthews

Sir, It is probably the innate desire to please, rather than an ear for phonics, that gives little girls a headstart for reading. Learning to read requires hard work on the part of teachers and pupils and phonics is only one of the several skills needed.

Motivation, interesting material and individual attention in the early stages are all contributory factors. Smaller classes when starting school would help to prevent the boys from slipping through the net.

Yours sincerely,
JULIA MATTHEWS,
50 Sydney Road,
Bexleyheath, Kent.
April 4.

Darrens and Deans

From Mr Arthur Tanner

Sir, Your report "Darrens and Deans are 'born to fail at school'" (April 2) reminded me of my experience when I was head of department in a boys' comprehensive school in the early 1980s.

Our practice was to "set" new pupils by an ability test, but only after they had had half a term to settle in. So in September at the beginning of term each year I put all of them into mixed ability groups.

One year, out of interest, I put the Edwards, Charles and Jameses into set A, the Marks and Johns into sets B and C and the Darrens and Deans into set D (the sets, of course, were not called by these letters).

Alas, very few changes had to be made after the boys were tested at the end of October.

Had extra resources been put into teaching the Darrens and Deans to read at the age of five — if need be at the expense of secondary schools' budgets — the picture might just have been different.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR TANNER,
69 Barton Road,
Thurston, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.
April 2.

Quick off the mark

From Mr Jonathan Izzard

Sir, I have great sympathy with Nigella Lawson waiting for her daughter to reach the Barbie phase (article, April 2). I have anticipated my son's desire for a Scalextric set and various accessories and have bought one ready for him. I anticipate his birth within the next three years.

Yours faithfully,
J. IZZARD,
7 Dunlin Close,
Kingswinford, West Midlands.
April 2.

Due recognition

From Sir William van Straubenzee

Sir, The practice seems to be growing of conferring the title "Emeritus" on those retiring from posts of distinction. Professors Emeritus proliferate. Deans do it, seemingly automatically, though I have yet to see it bestowed on a bishop.

A substantial number of Members of Parliament are retiring at the forthcoming general election. Would it therefore not be an appropriate moment to institute the title "MP Emeritus"? It would, I suggest, be restricted to those who have served for 25 years or more and who retire of their own accord.

All I ask is that the practice be not made retrospective.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM van STRAUBENZEE
(Conservative MP for
Wokingham, 1959-87),
36 Ebury Street, SW1.
April 4.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 7: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh gave a Dinner Party at which The Duke of York and The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon were present.

The following were invited: His Excellency the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates and Madam Al-Gurg, His Excellency the High Commissioner for the Republic of Zambia and Mrs Mtesa, the Reverend and Mrs Anthony Burnham, Sir Peter and Lady Middleton, Sir Robin and Lady Butler, Sir Colin Cowdrey and the Lady Herries of Terregles, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Barney White-Spunner, and Mr Hugh and the Hon Mrs Roberts.

The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon opened the enhanced facilities at the Windsor Leisure Centre and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Berkshire (Mr Philip Wroughton).

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 7: The Princess Royal today attended the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Grand National at Aintree Racecourse, Liverpool, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Merseyside (Mr Alan Waterworth).

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 7: The Prince of Wales today visited Aberdeen and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Aberdeen (Councillor Mrs Margaret Farquhar, the Lord Provost).

His Royal Highness this morning opened the new Gordon Highlanders Museum, Viewfield Road.

The Prince of Wales, President, afterwards visited 27 Albyn Place and reviewed the work of the Grampian region of The Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust.

His Royal Highness this afternoon attended a Civic Reception at the Beach Ballroom to mark the occasion of the official opening of the Gordon Highlanders Museum.

The Prince of Wales afterwards opened The Prince Charles Cadet Training Centre, The Prince Charles Barracks.

His Royal Highness, Patron, the Abbeyfield Society, later visited the Abbeyfield House, Torphins, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire (Captain Colin Farquharson of Whitehouse).

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 7: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Heritage of London Trust, today visited Thorpe Coombe House, Thorpe Coombe Hospital, Forest Road, Walthamstow. Afterwards His Royal Highness visited the Clock Tower, Caledonian Market, and also visited St Luke's Churchyard, Old Street, Islington. Later The Duke of Gloucester attended a Luncheon at the Sir John Soane's Museum, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2.

Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will entertain the Members of the Order of Merit at a reception and luncheon at Windsor Castle.

The Duke of York will attend a dinner onboard SS Canberra at Southampton at 7.00 to mark her retirement and commemorate the 15th anniversary of the commissioning of P&O vessels for the Falklands campaign.

The Duchess of Gloucester will open the new operations building at Warrington Police Station at 1.10; will open the new St John Headquarters at Warrington Hospital at 2.05; and will open the new Brow County Primary School, Runcorn, at 2.50.

The Duke of Kent, as Honorary Air Chief Marshal, will visit Royal Air Force Stafford Equipment Supply Depot, Beacaside, Staffordshire, at 10.30.

Institute of Biology

The following have been elected as Fellows and may use the designatory letters CBiol FIBiol:
Dr W A Adams, Dr J G Barr, Professor P H W Butterworth, Dr R Clarke, Mr D J B Durie, Mr A G Gasson, Dr P N Green, Mr A G Greenwood, Dr T D Healing, Dr J B Hutchison, Professor P John, Dr J K Kirkwood, Dr R R B Leakey, Professor W D S Leal Filho, Dr K C Lowe, Professor A D B Malcolm, Professor J S Marsh, Dr W T Mason, Professor T J Maxwell, Dr P A McAnulty, Professor B J Miflin, Mr G J Pilkington, Professor C J Pollock, Professor D J Porteous, Professor J Rhodes, Professor U Schumacher, Professor J N Sharma, Professor S K Smith, Professor G G Stewart, Dr D W Warnock. Call 0171 581 8333 for information in membership.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Mr Michael Gwilliam was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Mr L.J. Lickorish presided.

Birthdays today

Mr Kofi Annan, Secretary-General, United Nations, 59; Mr Tony Banks, MP, 54; Mr Hywel Bennett, actor, 53; Mr Mark Blundell, racing driver, '31; Sir Andrew Bowden, MP, 67; General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hookley, 73; Lord Grantchester, 46.

Mr J.P. Kavanagh, racehorse trainer, 54; Mr Harold Lightman, QC, 91; Air Commandant Dame Alice Lowrey, former matron-in-chief, PMRAFNS, 92; Mrs Mary Moore, former Principal, St Hilda's College, Oxford, 67; Mr W. Garth Morrison, Chief Scout, 54; Mr Peter Rogers, chief executive, ITC, 56.

Mr Ian Smith, former Prime Minister of Rhodesia, 78; Mr Alec Stewart, cricketer, 34; Sir Thomas Thomson, former chairman, Greater Glasgow Health Board, 74; Miss Dorothy Tutin, actress, 66; Miss Vivienne Westwood, fashion designer, 56.



Bonington's painting of the Grand Canal, Venice, with the Rialto in the distance, goes on sale on Thursday

Rare watercolour found to be worth £60,000

BY JOHN SHAW

A 19TH-CENTURY painting of Venice, initially thought to be worth a few thousand pounds, has been identified as a rare watercolour by Richard Parkes Bonington worth about £60,000.

It was discovered by Henry Weanes, a watercolour specialist at Sotheby's in London where it will be sold on Thursday. The picture's owner, who lives in Sussex, inherited it from his father.

The study was mounted and the mount carried the name of Thomas Shotter Boys, a well known artist and a follower of Bonington, who died in 1828.

The superior quality of the work was recognised when the owner took it into Sotheby's office in Sussex and it was sent for a second opinion to Mr Weanes in Bond Street.

He said yesterday: "When I was shown the picture I instantly recognised the unmistakable hand of Bonington, despite the misleading name on the mount. The picture must have been downgraded at some point and attributed to Shotter Boys, a very capable artist in his own right but definitely not in the Bonington league."

The watercolour dates from the last year of the artist's life and shows the Grand Canal with the Rialto in the distance. The composition of the architecture and the viewpoint of the painting relate closely to a known drawing and oil by Bonington, both in distinguished collections.

Dinners

The Athenaeum
Mr Malcolm Bishop was the speaker at a talk dinner held last night at the Athenaeum. Mr Michael Shaw was in the chair.

Cardiff Business Club
The President of Cardiff Business Club, Sir Idwal Pugh, was present at a dinner held by the Club at the Park Hotel, Cardiff last night. The guest speaker was Sir Andrew Large, Chairman, Securities & Investment Board. Mr Glynne H.C. Clay, Chairman, Brewin Dolphin Bell Lawrie, Wales presided.

London International String Quartet Competition
Mr Richard Sotnick, Chairman of the London International String Quartet Competition, and Mrs Sotnick gave a dinner last night at The Goring Hotel to mark the commencement of the competition at Goldsmiths' Hall. Among those present were Lord Menuhin, OM, and Professor Yfrah Neaman (artistic directors) and other members of the international jury, with Mr Stuart Devlin (president).

Christening

On Easter Eve in the Palace of Westminster the son of Mr and Mrs Graham Robertson was christened George James by Canon Donald Gray. The godparents are Mr Andrew Greaves, Mr Michael Hughes, Miss Rosie Harris and Miss Jo Messham.

Time for Britain to join the fight against looting

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

PRESSURE is expected to mount on Britain to ratify the Unesco convention against illicit traffic in cultural property, now that France has done so. It is the first northern European country to adopt the convention, which was signed in Paris in 1970.

Until now, with the significant exception of the United States, the parties to the convention have been the losers in the battle over the looting of archaeological sites and the smuggling of artefacts to the auction houses and dealers of the West and Japan. The adherence of France has broken the unity of Europe's receiving and selling nations.

"The adoption by France of this important treaty is a great step forward," Federico Mayor, Unesco Director-General, said at the signing. "It must encourage other states to have a fresh look at its provisions".

Françoise de Panafieu, the French Ambassador to Unesco, pledged France's commitment to encouraging other European nations to join the convention, and said that it testified "to France's determination in the struggle against theft and looting, which strike at the heritage and cultural integrity of many states". Among these are some of France's former African colonies, such as Mali and Niger, where looting of terracotta statues has become an epidemic.

France passed initial legislation in 1983, but only the 1993 EU directive on cultural property forced the present ratification, which comes into effect this spring and makes France the 86th country to adopt the convention. The Council for British Archaeology and other bodies have been urging the British Government to accede for many years, but pressure from the London auction houses and antiquities dealers has prevented it, as Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn charged recently.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Sir Adrian Boult, conductor, Chester, 1889; Mary Pickford, silent film star, Toronto, 1893; Sonja Henie, world skating champion and film actress, Oslo, 1912.

DEATHS: El Greco, painter, Toledo, 1614; Elisha Otis, pioneer of the safety lift, Yonkers, New York, 1861; Vaslav Nijinsky, ballet dancer, London, 1950; Pablo Picasso, painter, Mougins, France, 1973; Omar Nelson Bradley, American army general, New York, 1981.

Isambard Kingdom Brunel's steamship Great Western sailed from Bristol on her maiden voyage to New York, 1838.

King Zog of Albania abdicated, 1939.

The League of Nations held its final meeting, 1946.

Service luncheon

Somerset Light Infantry
Officers of the Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's) and their guests attended a regimental luncheon held yesterday at the Mount Somerset Hotel, Taunton. Colonel J.L. Waddy presided.

Legal appointment

Mr Paul Darlow has been appointed a Circuit Judge on the Western Circuit.

Marriages

Dr V Calderon Joya and Dr the Hon Laura Habgood
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Michael's, Malton, North Yorkshire, of Dr Virgilio Caldron Joya, son of the late Dr V. Moncada Joya and of Mrs Caldron de Joya, of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to Dr the Hon Laura Caroline Habgood, elder daughter of the Right Rev Lord and Lady Habgood, of Malton, North Yorkshire. The Right Rev Lord Habgood and the Rev R. Rogers officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, the Hon Adrian Habgood, was attended by Elliott Habgood and Henrietta Titcombe. Mr Francisco Alvarez was best man.

A reception was held at the Green Man Hotel, Malton, and the honeymoon will be spent in Honduras.

Mr P.M. Cuthbert and Miss R.F. Priddle
The marriage took place at Callander, Scotland, on Friday, March 21, 1997, between Peter Maurice, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Maurice Cuthbert, of Butleigh, Somerset, and Ruth Frances, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Priddle, of Batcombe, Somerset.

Luncheons

London Metal Exchange
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr Alderman and Sheriff Clive Martin, met members of the Board of Directors of the London Metal Exchange at a luncheon held yesterday at 56 Leadenhall Street after he had toured the exchange. Lord Bagri, chairman, presided.

Farmers' Company
Mr Marcus Cornish, Master of the Farmers' Company, presided and presented travel awards to Mr Julian Copeman, Mr Alexander Johnson, Mr Timothy Metson and Mr Bruce Trelfall at a livery and apprentices luncheon held yesterday at Farmers' Fletchers' Hall. The Master of the Fletchers' Company and the Editor of the Farmers Weekly were among the guests.

Monday Luncheon Club
Professor Alan Watson was the principal guest at a luncheon of the Monday Luncheon Club held yesterday at the Savoy Hotel. Mr Roland Shaw presided.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.R.E. Turner and Miss B.M. Kennedy
The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr Peter Turner, of Dalham, Suffolk, and the Countess of Effingham, of Blackmore End, Essex, and Brigid, younger daughter of Sir Paul and Lady Kennedy, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

Mr G.W. Barker and Miss E.R. Sherlock
The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Mr and Mrs Alan Barker, of Holbrook, Suffolk, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs Nigel Sherlock, of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mr J.M. Daniel and Miss K. Yamada
The engagement is announced between Jason, son of Mr and Mrs John Daniel, of Bale, Norfolk, and Kazuko, younger daughter of the late Mr Shizuo Yamada and of Mrs Sachi Yamada, of Odawara, Japan.

Mr R.J. Goddard and Miss V. Madge
The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Goddard, of Rendcomb, Gloucestershire, and Ginny, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Madge, of Puckington, Somerset.

Dr F.R. Jack and Dr V.A. Bryden
The engagement is announced between Fergus, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R.G.N. Jack, of Lymington, Hampshire, and Victoria, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R.J. Bryden, of St Helen Auckland, Co Durham.

Mr J.C. Middleton and Miss A.J. Hart
The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Middleton, of Market Drayton, Shropshire, and Alexandra, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Hart, of Camberley, Surrey.

Mr P.M.H. Stone and Miss E.T. Maher
The engagement is announced between Fred, son of the late Mr Michael Stone and of Mrs Stone, of Littlebourne, Kent, and Tierney, daughter of Mr and Mrs Joseph Maher, of Tampa, Florida. The marriage will take place in England.

University news

Nottingham
The following will receive honorary degrees from Nottingham University in July:
Mr Trevor McDonald, broadcaster, Doctor of Letters, for services to broadcasting and journalism.
Mr Michael Grade, former chief executive, Channel 4, Doctor of Laws, for services to broadcasting.
Ms Ruth Mackenzie, executive director, Nottingham Playhouse, Doctor of Letters, for services to the administration and management of the arts.
Mr Colin Matthews and Mr David Matthews, composer brothers, Doctors of Music, for their services to music and composition.
Professor Brenda Gourlay, vice-chancellor and principal, Natal University, South Africa, Doctor of Laws, for services to university administration and academic discipline of accountancy.
Sir William Purves, group chairman, HSBC Holdings, Doctor of Laws, for services to business and banking.
Sir Richard Sykes, chairman and chief executive, Glaxo Wellcome, Doctor of Laws, for services to pharmaceutical sciences and industry.
Professor Harold Garfinkel, University of California, Doctor of Letters, for services to sociology.
Professor Sir Harold Kroto, Nobel prizewinner, Doctor of Science, for services to chemistry.
Professor Gordon McVie, director-general, Cancer Research Campaign, Doctor of Science, for services to cancer research.
Mr John McKenzie, secretary-general, World Federation of Engineering Organisations, Doctor of Science, for services to engineering.
Sir Martin Wood, founder, Oxford Instruments, Doctor of Science, for services to physics and technology transfer.

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My son, keep my words; store up my commands in you. If you would live, and treasure my teaching as the apple of your eye. Proverbs 7 : 1,2

BIRTHS

ABRAHAMS - On Friday 28th March at The Portland Hospital, to Tracy and Barrie, a daughter, Gabriella Shoshana, a sister for Chana and Shaine.

BARRISTER - On April 4th at The Portland Hospital, to Vicki (née Schaverien) and Paul, a son, James, a brother for Matthew.

BARRELL - On April 2nd, to Nicola (née Lodge) and Alex, a daughter, Mary Helena, a sister for Bertie.

BELL - To Deborah (née Doling) and Richard, a son, Jacob John born 31st March 1997 at Hammersmith weighing 7lbs 14oz.

BERTHON - On April 2nd at the Clinic de Noviers, Paris, to Emmy (née Labovitch) and Bruno, a son, Hugo Jake.

BLACKWOOD - On 3rd April 1997 to Caroline (née Whitfield) and Clive, a daughter Eleanor Charlotte Mary. A first grandchild for both Mr & Mrs D. Blackwood of Bearsden, Glasgow and Mr & Mrs T.J. Whitfield of Street, Somerset. With thanks to all those at Queen Mary's, London.

BRACHER - On March 30th, to Camilla (née Peppiatt) and Charles, a daughter, Tamsin Ann, sister to Fergus.

CARRABINO - On April 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Annette Marie Jarosek and James Carrabino, a son, James Christopher.

CURRIE - On April 7th 1997 at Bruderholzspital, Switzerland, to Daniela (née Gajsenda) and Edward, a son, Frederick Archibald, a brother for Antonia.

HITCHCOCK - On 13th March 1997 at Royal Hants. Hospital, to Arthur and Jules, a daughter, Emma Wyatt, a sister for Sally.

JAMES - On April 4th 1997, to Mary and Johnny, a son.

MACKINNON - On April 4th at The Portland Hospital, to Wendy and Gregor, a son, Alistair, a bonny brother for Duncan.

MANSFIELD - On 29th March 1997, to Karl and Nicola (née Brown), a daughter, Rosanna Emily.

MARGETSON - On April 3rd, to Louisa (née Wood) and Guy, a daughter, Natasha.

MARSDEN - On 12th March 1997, to Sally (née Fisher) and Paul, a son, Charles Hugo, a brother for Sophie.

MAYNARD - On April 3rd at The Portland Hospital, to Lauren and Dan, a son, Luke, a brother for Charlie and Lucy.

MURPHY - On April 3rd at The Portland Hospital, to Suzy and Stephen, a son, Samuel Aloysius.

NEUBERGER - On March 26th, to Gillian (née Pyman) and Michael, a son, Thomas James Albert, a brother for Saskia and Lydia.

BIRTHS

PENNY - On 21st March 1997, to Annabel and Peter, a daughter, India Rose.

POLLARD - On April 3rd 1997, to Michelle (née Bentley) and Henry, a son, Charles Henry Dumas.

ROSE - On April 2nd at The Portland Hospital, to Leslie (née Curtis) and Andrew, a son, Samuel Laurence.

SCOTT - On April 4th 1997, to Jo (née Thallon) and Patrick, a daughter, Lucy Elizabeth, a sister for Will.

STANSFELD - On 2nd April 1997 at Montrose Royal Infirmary, to Mary (née Beackenbury) and Edward, a daughter, Katharine Elizabeth.

WADHAM - On 23rd March 1997, to Shirley and Julian, a son, Samuel Nicholas, a brother for William, Thomas and Oliver.

MARRIAGES

ROACH:CAMPBELL - At Weybridge Registry Office on 5th April between Darren Mark Roach and Julia Dawn Campbell.

DEATHS

ALASZEWSKI - Danuta Maria peacefully at her home on 21st March, much loved widow of Mieczyslaw, loving mother of Eva, Barbara and Andy and mother-in-law of Andy, John and Helen. Celebration of her life, 12.30pm Friday 11th April, Beckenham Crematorium, Beckenham. Flowers and shrubs to be planted in her memory to H. Copeland, 9, Bromley Road, Beckenham, BR2 5NT.

BAKER-BEALL - Kathleen peacefully on April 5th 1997 beloved wife of the late Rowland. Much loved Mother, Grandmother and Great-Grandmother. Funeral Service to be held at St Michaels Church, Beer, Devon on Friday April 11th at 3 pm. All friends welcome. Flowers or donations for the N.S.P.C.C. may be left at the Church or sent c/o Overmass & Chapple (Funerals), Chapple Court, Queen Street, Seaton EX12 2RB. Tel: (01297) 20644.

BATTEY - Keith suddenly at home on April 5th. Beloved husband of Judy, proud father of James and Joanna and stepfather to Richard and Kate. There will be a private funeral followed by a Memorial Service to celebrate Keith's life at a future date to be arranged. Enquiries to Cooper & Son, tel: (01825) 763763.

DEATHS

BAWDEN ALLEN - Anna suddenly on 5th April in France after a short illness. Much loved by Peter, Linda and her many friends. Private cremation.

BROWN - Christine on April 5th peacefully, much loved wife of Stewart, devoted mother of Vicky and Claire, and loving daughter of Grae and Anson. Funeral Service at St Oswald's, Lower Peover at 2 pm Friday April 11th. Family flowers, donations for Macmillan Nurses c/o J.A. Whiston, King Street, Knutsford, WA16 6DW. Tel: (01565) 632644.

BROWN - Andrew, "Muir", died peacefully on 7th April 1997 aged 97 years. Much loved grandfather of Philip and great-grandfather of Jack and Felix. Cremation Service at the Small Chapel, Upminster Crematorium on Friday 11th April at 11.15. Flowers to Molleys Funeral Directors, Upminster.

BRYCE-SMITH - Michael on March 30th. Much loved father and grandfather to Fenella, Julia, Michael and Douglas. Memorial Service at St Mary's, Bruton on Thursday, 24th April at 11.30am. Donations in lieu of flowers please to Bruton Surgery Equipment Fund, c/o Oswald Clarke F/D, West End, Bruton, Somerset BA10 0BB. Tel: (01749) 813327.

CHISHOLM OF CHISHOLM - On April 3rd at West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St Edmunds. Funeral will be on Friday 11th April at 11.30 St John the Evangelist, Mildenhall.

COOK - Gerald Cloudesley in his 99th year passed away at home in Redhill on 6th April 1997. No flowers by request. If desired donations in his memory to The National Trust, PO Box 39, Bromley, Kent, BR1 3XL. All enquiries to Nethercott Funeral Directors, Aldenham Road, Radlett, Herts.

CROUCHER - Albert Desmond, beloved husband of Jessie and a much loved father, grandfather and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully on April 2nd 1997 aged 92 years. The Funeral Service is at All Saints Church, West Lavington, on Thursday April 10th at 2 o'clock. No flowers, but donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research c/o Stuarts Funeral Service, Castle Farm, Hillworth Road, Devizes.

DUNCAN - Peacefully, on 4th April 1997, Rev. George B. Duncan MA. Cherished husband of the late Catherine, dearly loved father and grandfather. Faithful Minister of the Word. Funeral Service 3 pm on Friday 11th April at Holy Trinity Church, Colemans Hatch, near Hartfield, East Sussex. Thanksgiving Service to be held at a later date.

EGLINTON - Guy, aged 65, on April 5th, passed peacefully away in his home, the adored husband of Caroline and much loved father of Charlotte, Dominic and Sim. Funeral at St Paul's Church, The Ridgeway, Mill Hill, London NW7, on Thursday 10th April at 3 pm. Family flowers only, but donations to Imperial Cancer Research or Shelter c/o Phillips, 530 Watford Way, NW7.

FORSYTH - David Hugh Stafford. On April 4th, 1997, aged 77 years, peacefully at home after a short illness. Dearly loved husband of Ruth, devoted father of Carolyn and Sally, much respected grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service at St Michael and All Angels, Stanton, Broadway, on Friday, April 11th. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, for Campden Home Nursing Trust to Phillip Tomlins Ltd., 36, The Leys, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 5AP. (For further details of the funeral please telephone 01386-765133).

HILDYARD - Sir David Henry Thoroton (KCMG, DFC) on 5th April 1997 at home, in his 81st year. Beloved husband of Millicent and much loved father of Robert and Marianne and stepfather of Christopher and Elisabeth. Funeral at St Augustine's Church, Flintham, Nottinghamshire at 2.30 on Friday 11th April. Memorial Service in London to be announced later.

Le COUNT - On April 4th, W.W.I. (John) Le Count 3qn Ldr ret'd of St Issey, Cornwall. Enquiries (01208) 812626.

MACAULAY - Evelyn passed away peacefully at Colchester Hospital on April 2nd. Beloved wife of the late Charles Jack Wilfred Macaulay. She will be very sadly missed by her daughter Mitzi Ann Helena and her son Charles Ian and her grandchildren Emma, Tania, Lauren and John.

MACDONALD OF GLENMORE - I.A.R. (Alastair) Macdonald, OBE, on 4th April, peacefully in Pretoria aged 74. Loving husband to Dorothy. Sadly missed father and grandfather. He had lived and worked in Malaya, Singapore, East Pakistan and Nigeria. His ashes will be scattered on the Isle of Skye.

MATTHEWS - On April 6th 1997 at his home in St Agnes, Cornwall, Leslie William, husband of Pat, father of Sarah, Annabel and Nicola. Funeral Service at Penmount Crematorium, Truro, on Thursday April 10th at 11.20 am. Donations in lieu of flowers made payable to the St Agnes Methodist Chapel may be sent to A.C. Richards & Son, Quay Road, St Agnes, Cornwall.

MORGAN - Huw Llewelyn of Holyport, formerly of Neath and a Director of Barclays Private Banking, suddenly on 3rd April aged 50. Much loved husband of Jan. Will be deeply missed by his family, friends and colleagues. Funeral on Thursday 10th April at 11 am at Slough Crematorium. Family flowers only. Enquiries to E. Sargeaunt & Son, tel: (01628) 783738.

NEALE - Donald Edward. Suddenly, but peacefully at home on 4th April 1997 Donald Edward Neale OBE FChS dearly loved husband of the late Emilie, loved and respected father of Alison and David, father-in-law of Amy, grandfather of Valerie and Alistair, late of the Edinburgh Foot Clinic and School of Chiropody. Funeral Service at Main Chapel, Mortonhall Crematorium, Edinburgh, Thursday 10th April 1997 at 11 am to which all friends are invited. Family flowers only. At his own request donations may be sent to Age Concern Scotland.

PEAT - Sir Henry KCVO, DFC, FCA, aged 83 died peacefully in his sleep on 4th April. Funeral Service at Semington Crematorium, Melksham, Wiltshire, on Tuesday 15th April at 12 noon. Enquiries to E. Wootten & Son, Calne, tel: (01249) 812258.

PHELAN - On 2nd April 1997, John William, much loved husband of Peggy, father to John and Michael, and grandfather to Daniel, Lucy, Alexander and Hannah. He was a kind, generous and wise man. His Christian faith and habit of prayer helped him to bear suffering and loss with patience. Requiem Mass at 9.30 am Friday 11th April at St Monica's Church, Palmers Green, N13. Donations, if desired, to The Catholic Children's Society.

PICTON PHILLIPS - David Benjamin loving husband of Anne and father of Valerie, Andrew, Julia, Katherine and Dicon. Died on Thursday 3rd April 1997 aged 66 years. Service to be held at St Andrews Church, Chippenham, on 10th April. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Mutemwa Leprosy Settlement Fund. All enquiries to F.W. Jones & Sons (01249) 652625.

ROBERTSON - Sarah Virginia on 3rd April 1997 after a long illness borne with great courage and dignity. Much loved mother of Katy, Emma and Caroline and grandmother of Isobel, Bosco and Rose. Funeral Service on Friday 11th April at St Matthew's Church, St Petersburgh Place, London W2 at 1.15 pm, followed by private cremation service.

RAWES - Michael on 4th April, 1997 at The Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle. Dearest husband of Kathleen and much loved and loving father of Susanna and James, father-in-law, grandfather and brother. Late of Moor House Field Station. Funeral on Friday, 11th April at 1 pm at Armathwaite Parish Church. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, will be divided between the Riflemans Aid Society (K.R.R.C.) and the British Heart Foundation c/o John Richardson & Son, Victoria Road, Penrith, Cumbria.

ROTHWELL - Sheila on April 4th at the Royal Berkshire Hospital after a short illness. Beloved wife of Graham, mother of Carolyn and Paul, grandmother of Axel and Mika. Private funeral service and burial will take place at Saint Bartholomew, Fingest. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Cancer Research Fund, c/o Sawyer Funeral Service, 32 West Street, Marlow 01628 483331.

STEARMAN - Horace Walter. Peacefully on 4th April in his 92nd year at Dulwich Hospital. Fought well and cheerful to the end. Beloved grandfather to Tony, uncle to Rona and Rob. West Norwood Crematorium on Friday 18th April, 1.30 pm. Yeatmans (0181) 670-1127.

STREETEN - Frank CBE, died peacefully at home aged 69 years on April 4th 1997. Deeply loved husband of Bodile and very dear father of Mark and Peter. Sadly missed brother, brother-in-law, uncle and cousin. Funeral Service at Weybridge United Reformed Church on Wednesday April 16th at 2pm. No flowers please, but donations, if desired, to The Sam Beare Ward, Weybridge Hospital, Church Street, Weybridge KT13 8PZ.

SWINSTEAD - On April 5th 1997 peacefully at home Megan Hamed (née Lloyd) after a long illness faced with great fortitude, devoted and beloved wife of Peter, loving mother of David and Shân and grandmother of Ben. Funeral Service at St Helens Church, St Helens, IW at 2 pm on Thursday April 10th followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but donations in lieu may be made to Earl Mountbatten Hospice c/o Weaver Bros. Ltd., F/D, Bembridge, IW. Tel: (01983) 872598.

TILNEY - Dame Guinevere Tilney D.B.E., peacefully at home on 4th April, widow of Colonel Sir John Tilney, daughter of Sir Hamilton Grant Bart, KCIE, KCSI, and of Margaret, Lady Grant, and mother of Tony Hunter-Tilney of Lamma Island, Hong Kong. Requiem Mass will be said at the Lady Chapel, Westminster Cathedral at 11.30 am on 11th April. Instead of flowers, please send donations to the British Diabetic Association.

VECCHIETTI - Passed away suddenly on March 29th 1997 at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford. Antonino, aged 78 years. Beloved papa of Peter, Annalisa and Cristina. He will be sadly missed by all of his friends in the Italian Community. Funeral service in the St John's Chapel, Oxford Crematorium on Friday April 11th, at 10 am. Family flowers only please, for details regarding donations please contact the Oxford Italian Social Club. Please note the donations amendment due to an error.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BENTINCK - Henry Noel, 11th Earl of Portland. A Memorial Service will be held at the Harrow School Chapel, Harrow-on-the-Hill, on Thursday April 24th at 3 pm.

MAAS - A Memorial Service for Jeremy Maas will be held on Thursday, April 24th 1997, at St George's, Hanover Square, W1 at 12 noon.

MITCHELL - Lt.Col. Colin Campbell. A Memorial Service will be held at St. Columba's Church of Scotland, Pont St, London SW1 on Tuesday 20th May at 11.30am.

POLLOCK - Philip Samuel, who died on February 15th aged 70 years. A memorial service will be held at The Church of the Blessed Virgin and Holy Child, Bezuiles, Hants on Saturday 19th April at 11am. Everyone who knew him is very welcome to both the service and to drinks afterwards at Needs Ore.

STOBART - Paul. Will be remembered at a dedicated College Choral Evensong held in the chapel of Magdalen College, Oxford on Saturday 17th May 1997 at 6 pm. Seats by 5.50 pm please.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BARKLEY - Y.R. 8th April 1995. You were the minutes which made up the hours becoming the days, the months, the years of our lives. From those who will always remember - a time we will never forget. Love Paul and Margaret.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

NORTHEY - Tom, S. died suddenly April 8th 1996 aged 57 years. Sleep on dear son, for it is true you suffered much and told but few. In a haven of rest free from all pain. God keep you beloved son until we meet again. Sadly missed, in constant memory "Tom's Mum", sister Joyce and nieces Jane and Kim and little Eala whom he adored.

BIRTHDAYS

HOGAN, Sam Michael. Happy 1st Birthday! Love from Grampy, Granded, Auntie Caroline, Auntie Catherine & Gordon

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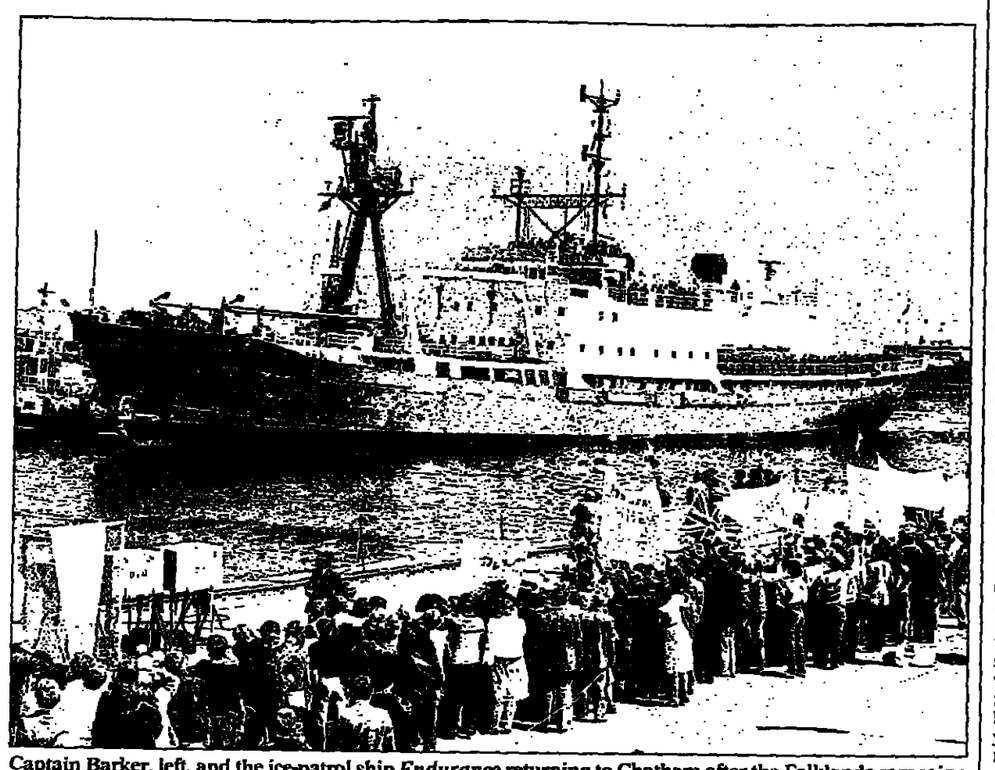
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OBITUARIES

CAPTAIN NICHOLAS BARKER



Captain Nicholas Barker, CBE. Captain of *HMS Endurance*, 1980-82, died of cancer yesterday aged 63. He was born on May 19, 1933.



Captain Barker, left, and the ice-patrol ship *Endurance* returning to Chatham after the Falklands campaign

AS THE only naval vessel in the South Atlantic at the time of the Argentine investment of Leith in South Georgia and the ensuing invasion of the Falkland Islands in the spring of 1982, the Antarctic ice patrol ship *HMS Endurance* was very much in the lion's mouth.

Although of limited military value, *Endurance* was a token of British commitment and a political pawn of some significance. The widely publicised decision by the British Government to withdraw her from the South Atlantic at that time must have indicated to the Argentine military dictatorship yet another weakening of British resolve over the Falklands.

Always vulnerable to defence cuts, *Endurance* had been reprieved in 1976 when the research ship *Shackleton* was fired on by an Argentine frigate and again in 1977 when her helicopter discovered a small military presence on the British dependency of Southern Thule. These and other incidents, including intelligence reports, had signalled a certain change, a hardening of Argentine attitudes, but, in an act of remarkable political insensitivity, the 1981 Defence Review decided to end her employment.

As her captain from 1980, Nick Barker willingly became immersed in the strong historic tradition of the Royal Navy's enthusiasm for the Antarctic, a tradition which runs from Cook through Ross to Scott. Joining forces with those lobbying bodies that have an interest in Antarctica and who wanted to preserve the naval presence, he worked outside the conventional chain of command and made quite a nuisance of himself in the corridors of Whitehall.

It was, possibly, memories of this robust politicking that caused officials to undervalue some of his percipient appreciations of the various clues concerning Argentine intentions that were signalled back from the South Atlantic during the build-up to the invasion. *Endurance*, with 22 Royal Marines on board, was originally dispatched to remove a party of Argentine scrap-metal merchants from Leith in South Georgia, but this operation was abandoned when the Argentine ship *Bahia Paraiso* turned up with over a hundred armed Marines led by the notorious Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz.

Nick Barker recalled: "On March 31 I realised things were coming to a head ... *Endurance* was hiding in the entrance to Cumberland Bay, not showing a chink of light, we were prepared to fight, but [the C-in-C] ordered us back to Stanley [in the Falklands]. Much delayed by a gale, I was very agitated: I realised the Argentine landing in the Falklands might find us half-way and unable to help at either place. My last contact with Rex Hunt [the Governor] was on the night of 1/2 April; he wished us the best of British luck. As far as I knew, the nearest British naval vessel was at Gibraltar. We knew there were at least four Argentine warships at sea."

With only two 20 millimetre Oerlikon guns, *Endurance* was perhaps fortunate to arrive back at South Georgia too late to help the 22 Royal Marines who defended Grytviken stoutly before surrendering, having been ordered to minimise casualties. She then had to lose herself until elements of the Task Force arrived on April 14 to retake South Georgia as the first step in the War Cabinet's strategy of escalation.

Operation Paraquet, as it was called, nearly became a disaster thanks to extreme weather and cold, but an added bonus to the surrender of Lieutenant Astiz's force under a hail of naval gunfire was the elimination of the submarine *Santa Fe*. Discovered on the surface and unable to dive because of missile hits and fear of air-dropped torpedoes, *Santa Fe* was captured in a damaged state off Grytviken. It was one of the *Endurance*'s Wasp helicopters that fired the first Royal Navy missile from a helicopter in wartime.

After her action in protecting South Georgia, it was fitting that *Endurance*, with the frigate *Yarmouth*, should finally end the conflict by taking the surrender of the Argentine garrison in Southern Thule. Barker was appointed CBE.

Nicholas John Barker was always very proud of his father, Lieutenant-Commander John Barker, who was killed in action in June 1940. In command of the destroyer *Ardent*, he had made a gallant but forlorn attack on the German battlecruisers *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau* in an attempt to protect the carrier *Glorious* from destruction towards the end of the ill-fated Norwegian campaign.

Orphaned in 1943 when his mother died, Barker was brought up by his grandfather, a retired naval captain. Educated at Canford and joining the navy through National Service in 1951, Barker had no less than eight seagoing commands, including, prior to *Endurance*, the frigate *Arrow* and subsequently the modern guided missile frigate *Sheffield* as well as the Fishery Protection Squadron. Those who predicted that his outspoken nature and flamboyant style — one Falklands campaign historian described him as "courteous and with the look of a prosperous businessman" — would dish his chances, were clearly wrong.

Retiring in 1988, Barker read for a Defence Fellowship at Churchill College, Cambridge, and then took up a host of activities connected with the sea, founding and chairing North European Marine Services and chairing the Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen. He was a council member of the British Maritime Foundation, was made a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society in 1982, a freeman of the City of London in 1986, and was elected a Younger Brother of Trinity House. In March this year he was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of the county of Tyne and Wear.

His account of the Falklands War, *The Falklands, A Common Denominator*, was published in 1984 and a successful novel, *Red Ice*, in 1987. These were followed shortly before he died by a well-received account of his difficult relationships with the Ministry of Defence and his views of the prosecution of the Falklands War entitled *Beyond Endurance; an epic of Whitehall and the South Atlantic*.

His first marriage in 1957, to Elizabeth Redman was dissolved in 1989; he is survived by his second wife Jennifer and the two sons and two daughters from his first marriage.

ROBERTO SÁNCHEZ VILELLA

Roberto Sánchez Vilella, former Governor of Puerto Rico, died on March 25 aged 84. He was born in 1913.



Roberto Sánchez Vilella *with Jeannette Ramos Buonomo shortly after their marriage*

ONE of the founders of modern Puerto Rico, Roberto Sánchez Vilella was the second elected governor of the island. He worked for the increasing autonomy of Puerto Rico and wanted it to become a sovereign state, enjoying an association with the United States along similar lines to that which the Dominions used to enjoy with Britain.

But Sánchez was a sombre technocrat by nature. A taciturn pipe-smoker with thick horn-rimmed spectacles, he appeared — when compared to his ebullient and charismatic predecessor — a colourless, though extremely efficient, administrator. His only passions outside politics were horse racing and dominoes. Puerto Ricans were stunned, therefore, when at the age of 55, he suddenly announced that he was leaving his wife of more than 30 years, to marry a beautiful mulatto girl many years his junior. If his marriage to his staff assistant added colour to his personal life, it left his political career in a shambles.

A native of Mayagüez, Roberto Sánchez Vilella was the son of a Speaker of the Puerto Rican House of Representatives. He was politicised from an early age and was always to remember witnessing the 1937 police massacre of members of a peaceful demonstration of the Nationalist Party on Easter Sunday. He testified against the police which led his father to denounce them as murderers in the House of Representatives.

Sánchez, however, decided at first not to follow in his father's footsteps. Spurning politics, he went to Ohio State University to study civil engineering and on graduating was offered a job by the Tennessee Valley Authority. It was Luis Muñoz Marin, later to become the first Governor of Puerto Rico, who persuaded him not to accept this offer but to return to his home island instead. He was at the right hand of Muñoz when he was organising the foundation of the Popular Democratic Party (PDP) which was to enjoy power in Puerto Rico for 30 years.

Deeply involved in every Muñoz initiative, including the much vaunted "Operation Bootstrap" which transformed the island from an almost feudal agricultural society into a modern industrial state, he became chief of staff when Muñoz was elected governor in 1948. When Puerto Rico gained full commonwealth status in 1952, Sánchez served simultaneously as Secretary of State and Secretary of Public Works.

Though he was a notable contrast to the gregarious and emotional Muñoz, Sánchez was Muñoz's choice as his successor as Governor in 1964. He won the election with 60 per cent of the vote, inaugurating his campaign with the slogan "New People, New Ideas and a New Style".

However, despite his skill as an administrator, he did not have a strong political base of his own. Dissident politicians undercut him by forming rival factions. Yet if there were doubts that he could win the next election, it was Sánchez himself who ensured that he would lose it. He outraged the largely Roman Catholic electorate by divorcing his wife and marrying his 35-year-old staff assistant, Jeannette Ramos. And, on top of everything else, she was a mulatto woman, a racial aspect which caused considerable affront to the stuffier upper reaches of Puerto Rican society.

In the midst of the scandal, however, Sánchez clung to office. Although he said at first that he would not stand for re-election — a decision of which Muñoz approved — he then stunned the voters a second time by changing his mind and founding a new party, the People's Party, under the slogan "Let the People Decide".

In the event, the people decided they did not want him and he lost the 1968 election, although in standing he pulled enough votes away from the PDP to take that party's candidate down with him. Muñoz was never really to forgive him and, despite their once having been the closest of colleagues, the *froideur* between them lasted until shortly before Muñoz's death in 1980.

Sánchez retired from politics to become a university professor of public administration and a political analyst for radio and television. He also resumed his love affair with horse-racing, something he had sacrificed in order to become a politician. His second wife later divorced him.

He is survived by both his former wives, and by a daughter from his first marriage and a daughter and son from the second.

BETTY SAUNDERS

Betty Saunders, *journalist, died of cancer on April 1 aged 69. She was born on January 7, 1928.*



SOMEWHAT surprisingly for someone whose byline came to be most strongly associated with the *Church Times*, Betty Saunders learnt her trade first in the hard school of regional papers and then on the *Daily Mirror* as a crime correspondent. But it was in middle age, as one of the best known and most liked reporters on ecclesiastical affairs, that she ultimately made her name.

Having left the *Daily Mirror* to concentrate on child-rearing, she returned to full-time work as a *Church Times* reporter in 1978. The paper was lucky to enjoy her blend of professionalism, Anglo-Catholic staunchness and inexhaustible charm for almost 20 years thereafter. Throughout this period she also wrote a wealth of feature articles, and under the alias of "Sidesman" was for nine years author of the paper's Portugal Street Diary. Her role in the life of the *Church Times*, if anything, became even more influential after John Whale succeeded Bernard Palmer as Editor in 1989.

Betty Smith, as she was before her marriage, was born in Manchester and grew up near Wokingham, Berkshire. Her overriding career ambition was always journalistic — she became fascinated by newspapers well before the age of ten — and her mentor, the then Rector of Bearwood, said she should write for the *Church Times*.

But as a teenager her interest in the Church began to dwindle and, on leaving school at 16, she joined the staff of the *Berkshire Chronicle*, acquiring a lifelong capacity for memorising long quotations. She also worked on the *Reading Mercury*, *Oxford Mail* and *Reveille* before moving to the *Daily Mirror*. On arrival there she was told that her appearance — "like an enrolling member of the Mothers' Union" — was ideal camouflage for investigating the criminal underworld.

She met her future husband Basil Saunders, a PR consultant, in 1956. They eventually settled in Dartmouth Park, north London, and became a mainstay of what was then a declining congregation at St Mary, Brookfield. In due course she became a long-serving churchwarden there and wrote from home as a freelance for numerous popular magazines.

She was distressed by a number of the ecclesiastical upheavals that followed her appointment to the *Church Times*, and many who were disarmed by the gentleness of her interviewing style would have been surprised by her private vehemence in the face of what she saw as creeping doctrinal liberalism. In particular, she believed that the Church of England's Catholicity was compromised by the ordination of women and was sure that her view was more widely shared at the parochial level than the authorities were ready to admit.

Some of her friends thought that the General Synod's 1992 decision in favour of women priests might prompt her to become a Roman Catholic; but she remained steadfastly attached to the Anglican Church. As someone schooled in the old-fashioned journalistic tradition that it is never a reporter's business to express opinions, she also continued to be admirably even-handed in all she wrote.

Despite enduring painful cancer treatment after her retirement in 1994, Betty Saunders continued to work with unflagging zeal. She wrote a book about the contemporary shape of the Church of England, *O Blest Communion!* (1996), and left a second work on spirituality unfinished at the time of her death. Her last article was a reminiscence for the 700th issue of the *Church Times* to be published later this week.

Betty Saunders is survived by her husband and six children, three of whom (including the novelist Kate Saunders) also work in journalism.

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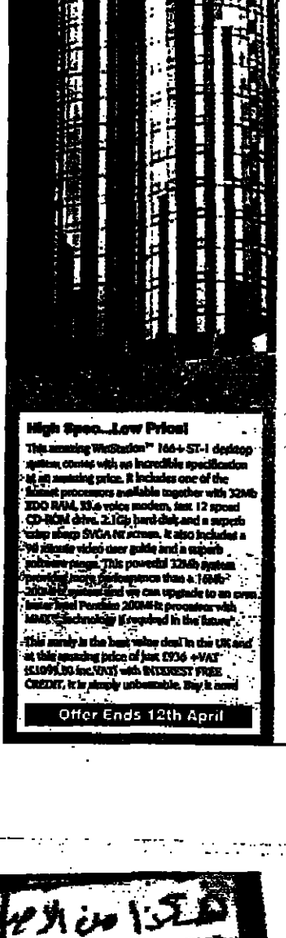
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Fresh start for vintage factories and mills

BY BRIAN COLLETT

SHOPS, small textile producers and a restaurant are now trading from a huge cotton mill in Preston, Lancashire. The local museum and part of the town college have moved in, too, and a marketing suite is soon to be added.

The project, at the 106-year-old Centenary Mill, is the first in a Business in the Community campaign inspired by the Prince of Wales. The campaign aims to preserve dilapidated mills and factories of architectural merit, many of Industrial Revolution vintage, and put them to business and social use, revitalising economically deprived areas in the process.

The Prince had found buildings threatened with dereliction and demolition throughout Britain and asked Business in the Community to consider ways of restoring them and getting them back to work. The group has responded with the Regeneration through Heritage campaign and will use six buildings, including the Centenary Mill, in a pilot scheme. It will help community bodies to find guidance on restoration and work with them on business plans for the enterprises that will use the space.

Fred Taggart, the campaign's director, is trying to recruit large manufacturers to play a part. "We would like the big boys to help the small producers," he said.

Single regeneration budget funds have been injected and National Lottery money will be allocated, provided the revival plans are approved by its heritage fund. The campaign is being overseen by conservation and regeneration specialists, including representatives of English Heritage.

Restoration of craft puts gilding back in the frame

BY DAVID ASKHAM

CLAIRE TIMINGS practises the ancient craft of gilding, that is, meeting the demands of the art world for restoration and for beautifying new items of craftwork.

She is one of a new generation of gilders who trained at the City and Guilds of London Art School, in woodcarving and gilding. She works in a Dorset village in an 18th-century former thatched village butcher's shop, which had lain empty for some time, awaiting the arrival of an enterprising new business.

Embellishing shaped wooden objects with gold can be traced back to 1500 BC and the embalming of Egyptian pharaohs. In the Middle Ages and later, gilding flourished in manuscript illumination, panel painting and the decoration of furniture and picture frames. Wars probably accounted for its decline as an art form. However, the craft is now very much alive.

Picture frames are generally made of stable pine, which is shaped and given a smooth finish before gilding commences. Claire's tools include a gilding knife, various brushes for settling the gold leaf, a wetting brush and a special brush called a tip which is used to lay the gold leaf on to the work. A gate-tipped tool, often in the shape of a dog's tooth, is used for burnishing the gold, which is done selectively to contrast with the matt finish and to enhance the shape of the piece.

Most of Mrs Timings's work is the conservation of old picture frames or period furniture from museums and art galleries. The rest is for private individuals and includes commissions for new work. Occasionally, she uses a high-power stereoscopic microscope to examine layers of old gilding or alternative finishes, the finely focused fibre-optic illumination helping her to unravel tell-tale signs of earlier restoration.

This skilled detective work is written up as a report for her client. The extent of restoration is decided, and thereby the cost, which can vary widely depending on the amount of evident damage and previous unsatisfactory restoration attempts that require remedial treatment.

Mrs Timings's skills become known to conservators because her workshop is listed in the database maintained by the Conservation Unit, part of the Museums and Galleries Commission. This list of specialist conservators and restorers is accessible to the public and institutions. Typically she works for private customers, architects, the Area Museum Council for the South West and the Diocesan Church Council.

Last year she helped with the restoration of Uppark House, the badly fire-damaged National Trust property. Her contribution was the conservation and restoration of the gilding on six candle sconces. That assignment was sub-contracted to her by St Blaise, a local company that specialises in the conservation of fine buildings and their interiors. She has recently been conserving a large frame for an exhibition of pictures by Evelyn de Morgan.

At the other end of the gilding spectrum, several weathercocks and vanes have been referred to her. She said: "They look wonderful when returned to their intended brilliance."

Another interesting project this year has been the gilding of elements of an ironwork decorative arch for the Goldsmiths' Hall in London. The arch was made by metalwork apprentices working under the supervision of Paul Allan, tutor at the Rural Development Commission's training workshops in Salisbury.

Mrs Timings works as a part-time consultant to the Rural Development Commission in Salisbury and tutors advanced courses in gilding. She feels greater use should be made of this valuable training facility, which is repeatedly threatened with closure.

Mrs Timings can be contacted on 01935 83267.

DAVID ASKHAM



Claire Timings, one of a new generation, works on a picture frame

Business group in talks to clip the wings of the phoenix

BY BRIAN COLLETT

TIGHTER controls on directors who milk their creditors, shut down their company and move on to repeat the process elsewhere are being sought by CCN, the business services group.

CCN was alarmed that, of the 2.6 million people on its directors' database, 3,229 men and 455 women had had more than ten failures each. Altogether more than 300,000 serial failure directors appear on the database.

David Coates, the managing director, said: "Many company failures are the result of unfortunate economic and trading conditions, and few lenders would regard association with just one failed company as a sign of dishonesty or incompetence.

"The real problem is the serial failure who goes from one failed company to another, often deliberately closing down to avoid debts."

The group quotes the example of a man posing as a farmer, who wanted a loan to finance agricultural buildings. Inquiries revealed he had a dozen failed companies behind him. He had borrowed to build houses, allowed the company to crash, then walked away with the director's salary he had paid himself. He did this many times, following a practice known as "phoenixing".

CCN wants measures to eliminate rogue companies and protect small businesses from employing directors who could ruin them. It is in discussions with the Department of Trade and Industry to provide more resources to nail crooked directors.

Peter Brooker, of CCN, said: "The investigators are doing a sterling job with their present resources, doubling the number of disqualifications in 1996, but this is still a small proportion of the directors doing naughty things, fewer than 1,000 a year."

The group is also challenging ministerial proposals to remove directors' addresses from publicly available documents at Companies House, thus barring business information organisations from storing them on their databases for use in finding dishonest operators. CCN wants the addresses to be available in confidence to responsible business organisations.

There is a warning, too, for individuals with cash to invest and businesses lending or trading on credit. They are advised to check the backgrounds of the people running the companies with which they deal, especially businesses without a track record.

☐ Bad debts and business failures rose 10 per cent last year, figures produced by Trade Indemnity, the credit insurer, indicate (Rodney Hobson writes). TI's policyholders reported 3,229 failures compared with 2,937 in 1995.

The main consolation is that the figures are still only half the levels recorded in the peak years of the recession in 1991 and 1992.

Scotland was worst hit with business failures up 28 per cent over 1995, closely followed by the North with a 27 per cent increase. The North West and Yorkshire and Humberside saw failures rise 20 per cent and 18 per cent respectively. Wales, however, saw bad debts tumble 2b per cent.

The sector giving most cause for concern was building and construction, which has felt the worst and longest effects of the recession. Reported failures rose from 704 to 762.

BRIEFINGS

More than 2,000 of Barclays' small business staff will undergo a new training programme: Understanding Small Businesses. The two-year, £4 million project involving real business people will meet the needs of the bank's owner-manager customers.

☐ April 14 is the last day for businesses in Scotland and Wales with fewer than 50 employees to enter 1997 Smart (Small Firms Merit Award for Research and Technology) which awards up to £45,000 towards project feasibility studies. A Smart scheme for England will be announced later.

☐ NatWest offers 12 months' free banking to business start-ups, whether in credit or overdrawn, if they do not pay more than £1 million a year out of the account. This is extended to 18 months for owners with a certificate from a recognised start-up training course.

☐ Kidson Impey, the accountancy firm, has produced a free guide to tax issues for family-run companies. Call 0171-334 4778.

☐ One-2-One, the mobile telephone service, has produced *A guide to growing your business* in association with the Federation of Small Businesses. Free copies are available on 0161-248 6266.

☐ The benefits for small businesses in joining forces with local university research departments will be explained at a seminar at Southampton University on April 17. Details from Business Link Hampshire on 0345 354555.

☐ Abbey Protection has introduced an insurance scheme to cover up to £50,000 in professional fees incurred as the result of an Inland Revenue investigation following the introduction of self-assessment.

☐ About a third of owner managers of small businesses work more than 60 hours a week and more than half put in 50 hours, says the NatWest Small Business Research Trust quarterly survey.

☐ A four-year campaign to promote European exports to Japan has been announced by the European Commission. The "Gateway to Japan" programme will be aimed at helping 1,000 European companies, especially small businesses, to sell products and services through trade missions, fairs and other events. The Commission can be contacted on 0171-973 1992.



"You're a serial failure? What as — a company or a human being?

Duty of care to third party

Woodward v Wolferstans (a Firm)

Before Mr Michael Mann, QC

[Judgment March 20]

Where a solicitor was retained to act in the purchase of a property and execution of a mortgage by the guarantor of that mortgage, he owed a duty of care to a third party who was the purchaser and principal mortgagor, but the extent of the duty was limited to exercising reasonable care and skill in carrying out the terms of the retainer.

Mr Michael Mann QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division, so held in a reserved judgment on March 20, 1997, dismissing the plaintiff's claim for damages against the efendant firm of solicitors for, inter alia, negligently allowing her to execute a mortgage without first advising her of its legal effect.

Mr James Ramsden for the plaintiff; Miss Jane Mishcon for the defendant.

HIS LORDSHIP said that in 1989 the plaintiff, then aged 22, had purchased a property in London, raising 95 per cent of the purchase price by way of mortgage. Her father, Mr Smith, executed a guarantee of the mortgage.

The defendant firm was instructed by Mr Smith to handle the conveyancing. Although Mr Knox, the solicitor concerned, knew that the plaintiff was the purchaser and principal mortgagor, there was no material contact between the plaintiff and the defendant firm, which dealt exclusively with Mr Smith. In particular, no advice was given to the plaintiff before she executed the mortgage as to its legal effect.

The plaintiff was unaware of her obligations under the mortgage, and believed that Mr Smith's guarantee meant that he was responsible for the mortgage repayments. When she started receiving letters telling her that her mortgage account was in arrears she passed them on to her father. In 1991 the lender commenced possession proceedings.

The plaintiff claimed, inter alia, the defendant owed a duty of care to advise her of her obligations under the mortgage and to forewarn her of the possible consequences of the lender having to resort to its security and of that security being inadequate.

Had she been appraised of those matters, she would have had the opportunity either to decline to proceed or to proceed on a basis which would not have exposed her to such risks.

His Lordship said that although it was clear that the defendant's contract of retainer was with Mr Smith that did not mean that the defendant owed no duty of care to the plaintiff in tort.

Following *White v Jones* ([1995] 2 AC 207), it was settled law that a solicitor could owe a duty of care to an individual who was not his client if a special relationship existed between them.

In his Lordship's opinion this was such a case: the defendant had assumed responsibility for carrying out tasks which it knew or ought to have known would closely affect the plaintiff's economic well being. The defendant therefore owed the plaintiff a duty of care.

However, before she could establish liability the plaintiff had to show that the content of that duty included explaining the transactional details and the implications of the mortgage.

In his Lordship's judgment, it would not be fair, just and reasonable to hold that that was the extent of the duty owed.

It was highly relevant that the defendant was simply carrying out the terms of a retainer entered into with someone other than the plaintiff. That retainer required that the defendant exercise reasonable care and skill in securing a good and marketable title to the property and the plaintiff's registration as proprietor of it.

It did not entail taking the plaintiff on as a client for the purpose of giving her advice and the court could not rewrite the contract to bring advising the plaintiff within its ambit. It was a fortiori that it could not do so by the back door. Moreover, imposing such a duty could have put the plaintiff's interests and those of Mr Smith in conflict which would be particularly unfair, unjust and unreasonable.

Accordingly, the duty owed was restricted to the exercise of reasonable care and skill in carrying the transaction into effect according to Mr Smith's instructions.

Solicitors: Clifford Chance; Bond Pearce, Plymouth.

Inferring deliberate concealment

Tunbridge v Buss Murton & Co (a Firm) and Another

Before Mr Justice Laddie

[Judgment March 24]

When a plaintiff seeking damages from a defendant in respect of negligence or breach of contract occurring outside the normal period of limitation alleged that a fact relevant to his right of action had deliberately been concealed from him, it sufficed for him to allege in his statement of claim the existence of facts which showed there was some chance of the trial court inferring from them deliberate concealment.

Mr Justice Laddie so held in the Chancery Division, in allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Alan Howard Tunbridge, from a order of Master Barratt, striking out, under Order 18, rule 19 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, paragraph 17 of his amended statement of claim against the defendants, Buss Murton & Co and Buss Murton.

Mrs Reziya Harrison for the plaintiff; Mr Alastair Norris for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE LADDIE said that the defendants had been solicitors both to the plaintiff and to a company of which he was a director and shareholder, and were in the 1980s instructed by him to draft a suitable debenture, properly secured against the company's assets, to cover a loan by him to it.

In August 1991 it went into administration. He suffered loss, and, the primary limitation periods having expired, began proceedings against them in contract and in tort, relying on section 14A of the Limitation Act 1980, as inserted by the Latent Damage Act 1986.

The defendants contended that to have an arguable case under section 32(1)(b) of the 1980 Act, the plaintiff must (a) identify a fact relevant to his cause of action and a course of conduct of concealment, and (b) plead that the concealment was deliberate, which involved both identifying the actor and providing proper particulars of his state of mind and knowledge, under Order 19, rule 12(1)(b) or 12(4).

His Lordship could not accept that argument. In view of the provisions of Order 18, rule 12 the pleader had to go further than merely assert knowledge, since particulars of the facts on which he relied had to be given either in the pleading itself or in separate particulars. Here, the plaintiff alleged that there were occasions when the defendants had to reconsider the debenture they had drafted and that competent solicitors would then have realised the error they had made.

So if at the trial the court, examining all the facts and aided by such oral evidence as might be given, drew the inference of such realisation, it was likely also to draw the inference that the defendants' failure then to disclose their error to the plaintiff had been deliberate.

Accordingly, his plea under section 32(1)(b) was not so clearly bad that it should be struck out at this stage.

Solicitors: Keene Marsland; Barlow Lyde Gilbert.

English interpretation of 'sex' doubted

Regina v Secretary of State for Defence. Ex parte Perkins

Before Mr Justice Lightman

[Judgment March 13]

A European Court decision that the equal treatment directive protected transsexuals on the basis of their sexual orientation threw doubt on the Court of Appeal's interpretation of the directive that "sex" there referred to gender and not sexual orientation.

It was therefore necessary to refer to the European Court of Justice under article 177 of the EC Treaty questions as to whether discrimination based on homosexual orientation was contrary to article 2(1) of Council Directive 76/207/EEC (OJ 1976 L39/40) and whether the policy of discharging from the armed forces any person of homosexual orientation was capable of being justified under article 2.2 of the directive as occupational activities for which the sex of the worker constituted a determining factor.

Mr Justice Lightman, sitting in the Queen's Bench Division, so held, making a reference to the European Court of Justice on the application of Terence Perkins who was discharged from the Royal Navy with effect from October 24, 1995 in pursuance of the policy of the armed forces without any exception or qualification and irrespective of his duties, whether at sea or on shore, to discharge any person of homosexual orientation.

Mr Peter Duffy for the applicant; Mr Stephen Richards and Mr Richard McManus for the secretary of state.

MR JUSTICE LIGHTMAN said that the primary issue was whether in the light of the European Court's decision in Case C-13/4 *P v S (The Times* May 7, 1996; [1996] ECR I-2143; [1996] ICR 975), the *Cornwall* case, it was clear that the directive was as limited in its application as it had been held to be in *R v Secretary of State for Defence, Ex parte Smith (The Times* November 6, 1995; [1996] QB 517).

It was necessary to have regard to the directive and the reasoning and approach to its construction in the *Cornwall* case. The issue was one of immense importance and wide application.

There were already thirty cases by discharged servicemen stayed pending the outcome of this case. The issue was also urgent because of the short life expectancy of a few of those discharged servicemen.

If the law was not clear the question ought properly to be referred. The only question was whether the reference should be postponed to allow the question to be resolved in *Grant v South West Trains Ltd*, referred to the European Court by an industrial tribunal.

After the decision in the *Cornwall* case it was impossible to limit the application of the directive to gender discrimination.

There was a real prospect that the European Court would extend protection to those of homosexual orientation.

The *Grant* case, which concerned travel concessions for employees' unmarried partners refused to the applicant's same sex partner, might go off on grounds not calling for guidance on the application of article 2.1 to cases of homosexual orientation and did not involve the other questions raised in this case.

The importance of an early and authoritative decision of the European Court could not be exaggerated.

Accordingly a reference was made to the European Court.

Solicitors: Bindman & Partners: Treasury Solicitor.

Interest on cost of taxation of costs

Ross v Owners of the Bowbelle and Another

Where a party to an action had obtained judgment with costs, and those costs were ordered to be taxed, interest on the costs of taxation of costs ran from the date on which that judgment was granted.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Leggatt, Lord Justice Saville and Lord Justice Pill) so held in a reserved judgment on March 26 allowing the appeal of the plaintiff, Deborah Jane Ross, against the judgment of Mr Justice Clarke on February 14, 1996, in the Admiralty Court when he found in favour of the defendants, the owners of the Bowbelle and the owners of the Marchioness, on the plaintiff's appeal from the order of Master Topley of November 10, 1995, and held that interest did not run from the date on which the plaintiff had obtained judgment with costs but on various dates subsequently on which the chief taxing master had made orders for the costs of taxation in the plaintiff's favour.

LORD JUSTICE LEGGATT said that the order for costs in the plaintiff's favour entitled her to interest on her costs from that date, including the costs of taxation.

No subsequent orders in her favour affected that original order. That accorded with the result laid down in *Hunt v R. M. Douglas (Roofing) Ltd* ([1990] 1 AC 398, 413, 415).

Nothing in Order 62, rule 27(1) of the Rules of the Supreme Court required a taxing master to make an order in favour of the person whose costs he was taxing.

The fact that normally the costs of taxation were a formality was not a reason why no separate order was drawn up for the costs of taxation: it was because no further order was required to cover the costs of the taxation.

No limit to TV evidence

Regina v Forsyth

A trial judge erred in ruling that he had no jurisdiction to permit evidence to be given from abroad through a television link when no extradition treaty was in force with that foreign place.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division (Lord Justice Beldam, Mrs Justice Bracewell and Mr Justice Mance) so held on March 17 when allowing, for other reasons, the appeal of Elizabeth Forsyth against her conviction at the Central Criminal Court (Mr Justice Tucker and a jury) of two offences of handling stolen goods for which she had been sentenced to five years imprisonment.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM said section 32(3) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 provided that if a witness gave evidence on oath the Perjury Act 1911 would apply and that if the witness could not be extradited to stand trial for perjury than that sanction would never be available.

His Lordship said that in giving that reason the judge plainly fell into error.

That sanction would not be available in many foreign countries, yet Parliament had not limited the places outside the United Kingdom where the procedure was to be available.

Notice cannot be revived

Cresswell v Pearson

Where an enforcement notice ceased to have effect because of the granting of planning permission that notice would not recommence upon the lapse of that permission.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Brooke and Mr Justice Blofeld) so held on March 20, when allowing appeals by Alan Cresswell and Patricia Cresswell by case stated against their convictions by Horsham Justices on October 23, 1996, for non-compliance with planning enforcement notices, contrary to section 179 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

LORD JUSTICE BROOKE said that in 1986 two enforcement notices had been issued by the local district council requiring the defendants to cease certain unauthorised uses of their land. In 1989 the council granted temporary planning permission in respect of those uses of the land, so that the enforcement notices ceased to have effect pursuant to section 92(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1972, now section 180(1) of the 1990 Act.

The justices had acted on the basis that when the planning permission lapsed in 1991 the notices came into force again, and so were effective in 1995 when the prosecution alleged non-compliance.

His Lordship said that that approach was wrong. The words of section 180(1), that an enforcement notice "shall cease to have effect", were clear and meant exactly what they said.

They did not mean that a notice went into suspended animation for the duration of the planning permission, but that it ceased to have effect. In such situations a council would have to issue a new enforcement notice.

European Law Report — Luxembourg

Enforcing court order for maintenance abroad

Farrell v Long

(Case C-295/95)

The provision of the Brussels Convention conferring jurisdiction on the courts for the place where a "maintenance creditor" was domiciled or habitually resident applied in the case of any person applying for maintenance, including a person bringing a maintenance action for the first time and was not confined to a person whose entitlement to maintenance had already been granted in court.

The Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on March 20 on a reference by the Dublin County Circuit Court on the interpretation of article 5(2) of the Brussels Convention of September 27, 1968 on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters.

In proceedings for a maintenance order in favour of a child brought by the mother, resident in Ireland, against the alleged father, resident in Belgium, the mother maintained that the Irish courts had jurisdiction under article 5(2), which conferred jurisdiction in matters relating to maintenance, on the courts for the place where the maintenance creditor was domiciled or habitually resident but the respondent argued that that provision could not apply as the mother was not a maintenance creditor since she had not already obtained a maintenance order.

In its judgment the Court of Justice said, inter alia, that article 5(2), which was in derogation from the general rule in article 2 conferring jurisdiction on the courts of the contracting state where the defendant was domiciled, was intended to offer the applicant in maintenance proceedings, who was regarded as the weaker party in such proceedings, an alternative basis of jurisdiction, the drafters of the Convention having considered that that specific objective had to prevail over the objective of the rule in article 2, namely, to protect the defendant as the party who, being the person sued, was generally in a weaker position.

Article 5(2) was framed in such a way as to apply to all actions brought in maintenance matters, including the initial action brought by a person applying for maintenance, and consideration of the question of paternity as a preliminary issue in such proceedings had not prompted the authors of the Convention to adopt any different solution.

Nuthall Pigeons flying high with Wright kind of players

THE TIMES ITF INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

IN ASSOCIATION WITH SKY SPORTS interactive



Wright, left, of Arsenal and Nuthall Pigeons, battles for the ball with Steve Clarke, of Chelsea, at Stamford Bridge

IAN WRIGHT'S goal for Arsenal, against Chelsea, may have pleased his manager, Arsène Wenger, but it was also good news for another of his managers Mr S. Gordon, of Enfield, Middlesex, whose team in the Interactive Team Football (ITF) game, Nuthall Pigeons, has won the the £250 weekly prize.

Mr Gordon's mix of north and south, pairing Wright with Jorge Cadete, of Celtic, as his two strikers has worked well although it was another Arsenal player, David Seaman, who was the highest points scorer for the team.

Mr Gordon's team is:

Goalkeeper
D Seaman (Arsenal)

Full backs
S I Bjornebye (Liverpool)
D Robertson (Rangers)

Central defenders
S Campbell (Tottenham)
U Ehiogu (Aston Villa)

Midfield players
N Ardley (Wimbledon)
J Albertz (Rangers)
R Winters (Dundee United)
M Gayle (Wimbledon)

Strikers
J Cadete (Celtic)
I Wright (Arsenal)

Manager
P Reid (Sunderland)

The passing of the transfer deadline means the managers in the Premiership have to make do with what they have available. However, if your team could be doing better, with your players lacking form and fitness, you can still move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes. ITF has a transfer system that allows you to change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the **0891 866 968** line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call **0044 990 200 668**.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

With ITF, not only are you pitting your selectorial skills against other readers of *The Times*, but also you are matching your wits against those in the know. With the support of the Professional Footballers' Association, Premiership players have entered sides of their own.

☐ ***All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.***

PLAYERS ON LOAN

N Gudmundsson (Blackburn to Ipswich, two weeks); B O'Neil (Celtic to Nottingham Forest, two weeks); J Lee (Nottingham Forest to Grimsby, end of season); S Blatherwick (Nottingham Forest to Reading, end of season); D Wassall (Derby to Birmingham, end of season); S Flynn (Derby to Stoke, end of season); M Taylor (Derby to Wycombe, end of season); M Williams (Sheffield Wednesday to Peterborough, end of season)

Loan periods subject to fluctuation

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1996-7 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED			
Goalkeeper		Striker	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts	All players	
Saves penalty	1pt	Appearance†	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Scores hat-trick	6pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	Manager	
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED			
Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal	1pt
All players		Manager	
Sent off	3pts	Team loses	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match

ENTER A NEW TEAM TODAY

THERE ARE BIG PRIZES TO BE WON EVERY WEEK AND EVERY MONTH

The ITF Manager of the Week and the Manager of the Month are up for grabs from now until the end of the season. Enter a team today for your chance to be a winner in 1997. The Manager of the Week or Month can be won by any team no matter where it is in the league, the prize for the Manager of the Week or Month simply goes to the person whose team scores the highest points in any one week or month.

The prize for the Manager of the Week is £250 cash, plus a £250 Sports Gift Voucher for an amateur football team in your community — as nominated by you. The Manager of the Month will receive £1,000 cash.

Enter today by following the instructions below.

Enter ITF by phone on 0891 405 011

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom, call 44 990 100 320

1. You must use a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone).
2. Choose 1 goalkeeper, 2 full backs, 2 central defenders, 4 midfielders, 2 strikers and a manager.
3. Do not spend more than £35 million.
4. Do not choose more than two individuals (2 players or 1 player and 1 manager) from any one football club.
5. Once you have chosen your team, call the entry line, above, and follow these step-by-step instructions.

a) You must tap in (not speak) the full set of selections (using the five-digit player codes) for each of your 11 chosen players and your manager.

b) You must speak the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) your name, address, with postcode, and daytime telephone number.

c) Finally, you will be given a ten-digit personal identification number (PIN) at the end of the call. You must keep a note of this number and your chosen team as no postal notification will be sent.

THE TIMES ITF — IN ASSOCIATION WITH SKY SPORTS interactive

See Sky Text, page 118

NB. Any new team will only score points on future games.

0891 calls cost 50p per minute. Your call will cost approximately double if made from a pay phone. In the event of there being more than one Manager of the Week or Month, the winner will be chosen at random. All ITF rules apply, a copy of which will be made available on request.

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 866 968

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom call 44 990 200 668.

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selectors PIN, which you will have to tap in, not speak. Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players you are transferring.

You may only make transfers in one team per telephone call. If you have entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

You may transfer two (but no more than two) individuals (two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by one from the same category and you must keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You must not exceed the £35 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

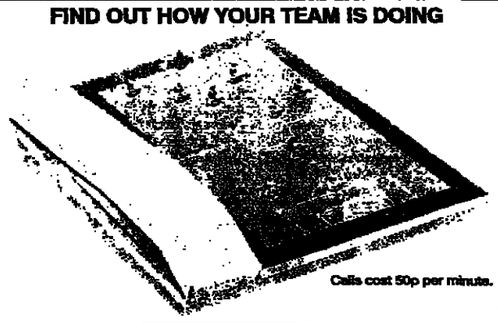
Calls will be charged at 50p per minute. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

	Player code
Player out	☐☐☐☐☐
Club	
Player in	☐☐☐☐☐
Club	

LEADING 250 SELECTORS IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL GAME

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
1	Edmo Utd (Mr D Edmondson)	709
2	Sophie And Sam (G Foster)	707
3	Turners Amers 5 (P Turner)	702
4	Jones Boys Three (Mr M Jones)	694
5	John Hunt Taunton D (J Hunt)	691
6	Pin Ups Two (Mr P Tusler)	679
7	Brain's Team (Mr B Howes)	678
=8	John Hunt Taunton H (J Hunt)	676
=8	Nobby 4 (J Brown)	676
10	Ab 4 (A Boyland)	675
=11	Nonchalont A F C 3 (Mr RJ Ward)	674
=11	Daggers (V Cox)	674
13	Nobby 32 (J Brown)	670
14	Nobby (J Brown)	668
15	Dour Rangers 3 (I Clayton)	664
16	Turnerj Earners 3 (P Turner)	662
=17	Icarus (Mrs B Wells)	659
=17	12 Angry Men (Daryl Cook)	659
=17	Bobs Boys 2 (R Calder)	659
=17	Nobby 29 (J Brown)	659
=21	Jabberwocky (PA Amoss)	657
=21	Nobby 33 (J Brown)	657
23	John Hunt Taunton G (J Hunt)	656
=24	Partick Bilbao 3 (Mr J Hamilton)	654
=24	Beeston Celtic (Barry Mcgivern)	654
26	Jones' Boys 8 (Mr M Jones)	652
27	4obby 21 (J Brown)	651
28	Nobby 11 (J Brown)	650
29	Turners Earners 1 (P Turner)	649
30	Noahs Ark (G P Dolan)	648
31	Hunters Mob (C Hunter)	647
32	Where's Ray Gone? (Patrick Fromm)	646
33	Obby 22 (J Brown)	644
34	Bteclerunners (Mr P Walters)	643
35	Uni Boys Utd 1 (Mr B Gardiner)	642
=36	Blythe Spartans (T Blythe)	641
=36	Nobby 23 (J Brown)	641
38	Bcfc 1998 (Jan Bithell)	640
39	A (Martin Corless)	639
40	Jjb Sports (A Bates)	638
=41	Storm (Mr P Mills)	637
=41	Abc (M Baber)	637
=43	Inter The Pub (Mr M Ward)	636
=43	Thorn Foolery F C (Mr M Horan)	636
=43	Jones Boys Sky (Mike Jones)	636
=43	John Hunt Taunton F (J Hunt)	636
47	Bobs Boys 4 (R Calder)	635
=48	Turners Earners 6 (P Turner)	634
=48	Turners Earners 4 (P Turner)	634
=50	Inter The Stand (Mr M Ward)	633
=50	Scholes For Goals (K Booth)	633
=50	Teddy Three (Mr B Bear)	633
=50	Raj Is Back To Kill 5 (Mr R Gohil)	633
54	Midfield Magic (Jon Pregon)	632
=55	Tur (P Turner)	631
=55	Nobby 12 (J Brown)	631
57	John Hunt Taunton C (J Hunt)	630
=58	Nobby 7 (J Brown)	627
=58	Nobby 25 (J Brown)	627
=60	Caroline B (A Luckhurst)	626
=60	Garforth Seahawks (I Doughty)	626
=62	Tulips Tops (D Tulip)	625
=62	Krystonia 2 (Mr S Roberts)	625
=62	Club18-30 Tossa (Andy Robson)	625
=62	Nobby 14 (J Brown)	625
66	Jones Boys One (ML Jones)	624
=67	Your Not Very Well (R Laskowtki)	623
=67	Bonky Boys (R Crook)	623
=67	Elsinore United (Paul Leader)	623

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



Calls cost 50p per minute.

Call the ITF checkline on
0891 884 643
Outside UK: 44 990 100 343

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
=67	Atc (M Baber)	623
=71	Jan 2 (Mrs J Clayton)	622
=71	Ball Watchers (Mr J Murray)	622
=71	Gestalt (Richard Rowe)	622
=71	Concrete Banana (S Mingle)	621
75	Bad Time Boys (R Crook)	620
=76	Irwins Best (Mr L Sampson)	620
=76	Watemish FC (Margaret Kirkwood)	620
=76	Misfits (R Lockyer)	620
=76	Nobby 5 (J Brown)	619
=80	Team C (A Lone)	619
=80	1970 Jr FC (J Ross)	619
=80	Nobby J (J Brown)	619
=80	Nobby 20 (J Brown)	618
=84	Inter The Wallet (Mr M Ward)	618
=84	Joking (Mr P Fallen)	618
=84	John Hunt Taunton E (J Hunt)	617
87	Mean Machine (P Ford)	616
=88	Set Against Cys (Mr S Shipley)	616
=88	Murrays Magicians (Mr M MacMillan)	616
=88	Always Portugal 1 (V Guimaraes)	616
=91	Simba's Dream (Ms CA Kitchen)	614
=91	Raj Is Back To Kill 6 (Mr R Gohil)	614
=93	Born Losers (Mr P Farkins)	613
=93	Neil Madrid (Mr N Ratcliffe)	613
=93	Brainbows United (Mr G Weiss)	613
96	Murrays Mates (Mr D Anderson)	612
=97	Enid Four (Mr J Feather)	611
=97	Glen Duffers (S Wilson)	611
=97	Inter The Unknown (Peter Barnett)	611
=97	Bobs Boys 3 (R Calder)	611
=101	Orvieto Classico (DR J Bradshaw)	610
=101	Butowith Utd 5 (Mr M Larcombe)	610
103	Caroline D (A Luckhurst)	609
=104	Infinity George (M Robson)	608
=104	The Dummies 1 (D Shiels)	608
=106	Ebbeys 1st X I (Mr S Baldrick)	607
=106	Def Con 3 (M Peck)	607
=106	Nobby 34 (J Brown)	607
=109	P J B Rovers (Mr PJ Butler)	606
=109	D J S 2 (Mr D Senton)	606

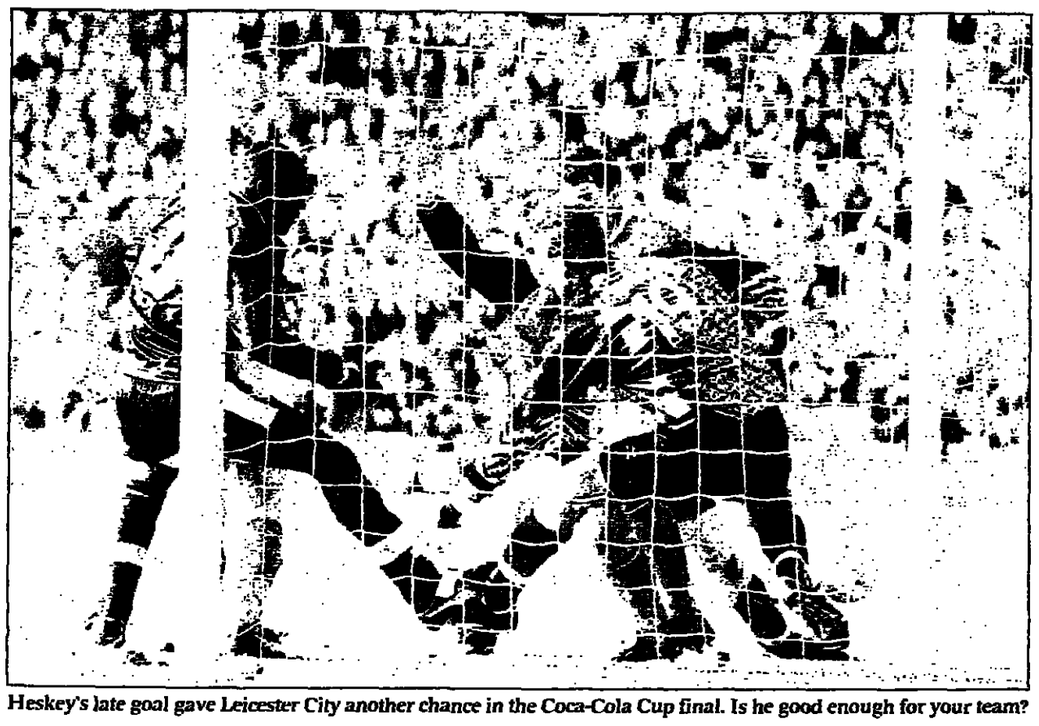
Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
=109	N S T Monkstone (Mr J Staszkiewicz)	606
=109	Langton Longballs (Mark Ward)	606
=113	Gangsters (A Lone)	605
=113	Inter The Bin (Mr M Ward)	605
=113	A2 (K Farhall)	605
=116	Kinky Imports (Scott Fraser)	604
=116	Ajk (K Hughes)	604
=118	Agapanthus FC (Mr W Heslop)	603
=118	Mars Fc (M Baber)	603
=120	Star Chamber (Mr M MacMillan)	602
=120	Cookies Gunners (Mr S Cook)	602
=120	Pj Thistle (Richard Newbould)	602
=123	Alice (Mr I Pigeon)	601
=123	Bobs Boys 1 (R Calder)	601
=125	Bunnet Bhoys (Alan Sharpe)	600
=125	Bobs Boys 5 (R Calder)	600
=127	No Midfield (JB Portwood)	599
=127	Goaldiggers (Mr D Curzon)	599
=127	Top Banana (Martin Bottomley)	599
=130	Enid 2 (Mr J Hagger)	598
=130	R K V 3 (C Vanezis)	598
=130	Caught Lucky (Mr C Wright)	598
=130	Man City Free Zone (D Ingham)	598
=134	Layton's Lions 7 (Mr R Layton)	597
=134	Byzantine Bricks (Mr S Houghton)	597
=134	Sam Shanks (Mr S Shankar)	597
=134	Skyforest (A Burton)	597
=138	Billy No Mates X I (M Bremner)	596
=138	Buggie Nawvies (Dave Banks)	596
=138	Farr Academicals (Alistair Kirkwood)	596
=138	Alistir (Ilyfe)	596
=142	Inter Outers (Mr R Johnson)	595
=142	C U O K (Mr G Weiss)	595
=142	Vat3 (K Howson)	595
=145	The Far Side (C Hadfield)	594
=145	Fendon United (Mr E Cowen)	594
=145	Bob Hope And No Hope (T Blythe)	594
=145	S Gill Taunton A (S Gill)	594
=149	Purple Rain (Mr B Gohil)	593
=149	Caroline C (S A Luckhurst)	593
=149	Robzteam2 (R Preston)	593
=152	Patel One (Mr P Patel)	591
=152	Daves First X I (D Quibell)	591
=152	Come On You Rocks ()	591
=152	Das Boot (D A Sutton)	591
=152	Grafton Willows (R J Brown)	591
=152	Doppelgangereutd (John Whaling)	591
=152	I Hate Alan Hansen (V Cox)	591
=152	Animals (L Clark)	591
=160	Its About Revenge C (Mr R Gohil)	590
=160	Porcelain Dogs (Mr A Ibison)	590
=160	Diplomatic Risk (Mr G Prichard)	590
=160	Roberts-Team 1 (Mr M Roberts)	590
=160	Supersubs (Mr I Taylor)	590
=160	Yahboysir (Gordon Davidson)	590
=160	Foxy (M Fox)	590
=160	Fortune Hunters (K Farhall)	590
=168	Northern Lights (Mr C Wright)	589
=168	Holsterites (Mr D Blair)	589
=168	Mmm Fantasy Leaguers (Michael Madden)	589
=168	Xpat Missiles (Martin Jackson)	589
=172	Kingsbury Tn 1 (D F King)	588
=172	Drabx5 (D Edbrookestainer)	588
=174	Grimmers Army (S Gray)	587
=174	J S August Monthly 1 (Mr J Swirles)	587
=174	Lesleys Legmen (L Michaelis)	587
=174	L F C Champs 96 97 (B Fazakerley)	587
=176	J D 3 (Mr J Donaldson)	585
=179	Wingless Wonders (Mr P Paynter)	584

Pos	Team (player's name)	Pts
=179	Shot On Sight 2 (P Goldstraw)	584
=179	The Loggers (Mr C Wright)	584
=182	St Bartholomews (Mr J M Bartholomew)	583
=182	Daniels Seishans (V Cox)	583
=184	Davsio Unt 1 (Mr D Sloan)	582
=184	Triple Top Tan (Mr P Bailey)	582
=184	Hrsham's Haggis (Mr H A Rahim)	582
=184	John Hunt Taunton A (J Hunt)	582
=188	Mapflappers (Mr P Reid)	581
=188	Demolition Men (Mr J Murray)	581
=188	Sad & Grim Team (Mr J Swan)	581
=188	Bung Ho! (Graham Watson)	581
=192	Bacardi Boys (Mr M Woodley)	580
=192	Papadopoulos Utd (Mr A Papadopoulos)	580
=192	Caroline A (A Luckhurst)	580
=192	Old Cameronians (R J Brown)	580
=192	Tungston Town (JW George)	580
=192	Botak United 1 (Julian Pull)	580
=192	Schoko Zoo (Paul Roach)	580
=192	Dodds Aces (C Dodd)	580
=200	Hammy's Heroes (Mr G Howard)	579
=200	Dicksaes Tigers (T Rawlings)	579
=200	Crooky Boys (Mr R Crook)	579
=200	Inter The Net (Mr M Ward)	579
=200	Wassack (Mr M Hugill)	579
=200	What Ford Splash (N P Lewis)	579
=200	Vat1 (K Howson)	579
=207	Jacks Nightmare (N J Lane)	578
=207	Oct95-itl Champ! (Mark Sladden)	578
=207	Dutch Courage (Ruud Van Rutlenbeek)	578
=207	Best Defence (Jon Pregon)	578
=207	Nelfies Heros (I Fox)	578
=212	Red Star Storm (P Mills)	578
=212	Rubella (Mr T Wylie)	577
=212	Rock Bottom (Mr E O'Gorman)	577
=212	Lynne's Lions (Lynne Hioms)	577
=212	March Pass (M Mcgovern)	577
=217	Alancia F C (A Stillano)	577
=217	Sooty's Puppets I I (Mr EG Ryan)	576
=217	Ajaxpool (Chris Strachan)	576
=220	The Wee Rovers (Mr D O'Donnell)	576
=220	E J K's Unleashed (Mr EJ Kitchen)	575
=220	real Ale Ripon (C Blackshaw)	575
=220	No Help From Dad FC (Mr A Du Gay)	575
=220	Havok (Peter Williamson)	575
=220	Sucharita (Richard Keenan)	575
=220	Powerage (I Doughty)	575
=227	Flying Pigs (M Macmillan)	575
=227	Back In Bristol (Mr D Stone)	574
=227	Dwyer's Tipsters (Mr J Dwyer)	574
=227	Lloydy's Barge (David Goodwin)	574
=227	John Hunt Taunton B (J Hunt)	574
=232	Where's Amos? (L J Saunders)	574
=232	The Instructors (K Curson)	573
=232	Celtic Fowlers (Mr G Thomas)	573
=232	Bubwith Utd 3 (Mr M Larcombe)	573
=232	Hannah's Heroes (Colin Bennett)	573
=232	The Dansters (C C Vevers)	573
=238	Scolitalia United (Mr S Goff)	573
=238	Laughing Gravy (Mr D Clarke)	572
=238	Solid Saints (Mr P Ridout)	572
=238	Le Boeufcaters (Mr J Roobuck)	572
=238	The Winners Vw (Vikram Wadhwa)	572
=243	Kelly's Best (P Linewry)	572
=243	Toms Tigers X I I (Mr J Mooney)	571
=243	Excalibur (M Tupper)	571
=243	4 4 2 (K Browne)	571
=243	Nomates (Mr C Wilson)	571
=243	Grahams Bungers (Graham Watson)	571
=243	Ravn's Dream Team (Morten Ravn)	571
=243	Skyline Sizzlers (T Gordon)	571

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-12
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	0	-14
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	+5	+35
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0	+1
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	0	+24
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	-1	+18
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	-1
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+4
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	0	-1
10502	S Kerr	Celtic	3.00	-1	+27
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0	+10
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	0	-27
10603	F Grodas	Chelsea	3.00	-5	-5
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	-1	-32
10702	J Filan	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
10802	R Hoult	Derby County	1.00	0	-34
10804	M Poom	Derby County	1.00	-3	-3
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	0	+4
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	0	-10
10903	S Dykstra	Dundee United	2.50	-4	-4
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50	-7	-54
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	-5	-29
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.50	0	+1
11201	G Rousset	Hearts	2.00	-1	-8
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	+5	-22
11401	D Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	+5	-39
11501	M Beeney	Leeds United	1.50	0	+5
11503	N Martyn	Leeds United	2.50	0	+30
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	0	-16
11603	K Keller	Leicester City	1.00	0	-14
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	-3	+22
11702	T Warner	Liverpool	0.50	0	0
11703	J Nielsen	Liverpool	1.00	0	0
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	-5	+7
11802	R Van Der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00	0	+5
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-20
11903	B Roberts	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	+3
11904	M Schwarzer	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	-4
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	+5	-26
12101	S Hislop	Newcastle United	4.00	-1	-15
12102	P Srnicek	Newcastle United	3.00	0	0
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-5	-49
12202	A Fettis	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	-2
12301	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	-1	-54
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	0	+29
12402	A Dibble	Rangers	3.50	+5	+5
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+4
12502	M Clarke	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
12601	D Beasant	Southampton	1.00	0	-28
12602	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	0	+2
12604	M Taylor	Southampton	1.00	-1	-3
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	-1	-42
11803	T Coton	Sunderland	1.00	0	+9
12801	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	+5	-8
12802	E Baardsen	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
12901	L Miklosko	West Ham United	2.00	0	-26
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	-1	+4
13002	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.00	0	-1



Heskey's late goal gave Leicester City another chance in the Coca-Cola Cup final. Is he good enough for your team?

FULLBACKS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
20101	S McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00	0	+8
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	+4	+36
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	+4	+45
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00	+3	+39
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+56
20303	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0	0
20305	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+43
20401	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+24
20402	G Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+27
20403	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+22
20404	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+2
20501	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	-1	+36
20502	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.00	0	+20
20601	D Petrescu	Chelsea	3.00	-2	+20
20602	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.00	-2	+5
20604	S Minto	Chelsea	1.00	-1	-3
20701	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0	-8
20703	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.00	0	-9
20704	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	0	+6
20801	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	-1	+7
20802	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	0	+4
20901	M Malpas	Dundee United	1.00	-1	+51
20902	M Perry	Dundee United	0.50	-1	+40
20903	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.50	0	+7
21001	C Miller	Dunfermline	0.25	0	-5
21002	A Tod	Dunfermline	0.25	-3	-10
21101	M Hottiger	Everton	2.50	-2	-6
21102	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.00	0	+14
20603	T Phelan	Everton	2.00	-2	-2
21103	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	0	+15
21201	G Locke	Hearts	2.00	-1	+21
21202	N Pointon	Hearts	1.00	-1	+20
21301	W Miller	Hibernian	1.00	+4	+7
21302	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	0	+12
21402	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50	0	-8
21501	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	0	+39
21502	T Dorigo	Leeds United	2.50	0	+10
21504	G Halle	Leeds United	1.00	0	+29
21601	M Whitlow	Leicester City	0.50	0	+6
21602	S Grayson	Leicester City	0.50	0	+11
21604	F Rolling	Leicester City	0.25	0	0
21701	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0	0
21702	S Harkness	Liverpool	1.50	-1	-1
21703	S Bjornebye	Liverpool	0.50	0	+48
21801	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.00	-1	+40
21802	G Neville	Manchester United	3.00	-1	+33
21803	P Neville	Manchester United	3.00	-2	+2
21901	N Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50	0	-11
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-1
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	+7
21905	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.25	0	+9
21906	V Kinder	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	+1
22002	S McMillan	Motherwell	0.50	0	+2
22101	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+5
22102	S Watson	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+21
22103	R Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50	0	+10
22104	J Beresford	Newcastle United	2.50	0	+7
22201	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.00	+1	+11
22202	D Lyttle	Nottingham Forest	2.00	-2	+5
22203	A Haaland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	-2	+20
22204	N Jerkan	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	-4
22301	P Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.75	0	-8
22302	D Kirkwood	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	-7
22401	D Robertson	Rangers	2.50	+4	+38
22402	J Brown	Rangers	2.00	0	0
22501	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+29
22502	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+30
22503	S Nicol	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+11
22504	D Stefanovic	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+11
22505	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	+3
22601	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	0	-4
22602	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	-1	-5
22603	S Charlton	Southampton	0.75	0	+4
22701	D Kubicki	Sunderland	0.50	0	+6
22702	M Scott	Sunderland	0.50	0	+4
22703	G Hall	Sunderland	0.25	0	+3
22704	J Eriksson	Sunderland	1.50	0	-1
22801	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	+4	+5
22802	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+12
22803	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	+4	+14
22804	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
22805	S Carr	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	-3
22901	J Dicks	West Ham United	4.00	0	+23
22902	T Breacker	West Ham United	1.00	0	+3
22903	K Rowland	West Ham United	1.00	0	-2
22904	M Bowen	West Ham United	1.00	0	+2
23001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+9
23002	A Kimble	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+14
23003	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+27
23004	D Jupp	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+2
23006	C Perry	Wimbledon	0.25	0	+39

CENTRAL DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	0	+30
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	0
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	-3
30404	N Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+2
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	0	+29
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	0	+37
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	0	+19
30505	E Annoni	Celtic	3.00	0	+4
30601	M Duberry	Chelsea	2.50	0	+1
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	0	+29
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	-4
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	-1	0
30606	E Johnsen	Chelsea	1.50	0	+11
30701	L Daish	Coventry City	2.00	0	+5
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0	+5
30704	G Breen	Coventry City	1.50	0	-1
30705	A Evtushok	Coventry City	1.50	0	+1
30801	I Stimac	Derby County	2.50	0	-10
30303	P McGrath	Derby County	2.50	-1	-2
30803	J Laursen	Derby County	1.00	-1	+10
30804	M Carbon	Derby County	0.50	0	-5
30901	S Pressley	Dundee United	1.00	-4	+51
31001	M Millar	Dunfermline	0.75	-4	-6
31002	I Den Bleman	Dunfermline	0.75	-3	-17
31101	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	+1	+16
31102	D Watson	Everton	2.50	-3	+11
31103	C Short	Everton	2.00	-3	+7
31201	D McPherson	Hearts	1.00	0	+27
31202	P Ritchie	Hearts	1.00	0	+32
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	+3	+7
30902	B Welsh	Hibernian	0.75	0	+9
31302	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0	-3
32302	S Dennis	Hibernian	1.00	0	-19
31401	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	+4	+7
31402	R Montgomerie	Kilmarnock	0.75	+4	+8
31501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	0	+31
31502	R Jobson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+2
31503	L Radebe	Leeds United	1.00	0	+23
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31505	R Molenaar	Leeds United	2.00	0	+24
31601	S Walsh	Leicester City	1.00	0	+12
31602	J Watts	Leicester City	1.00	0	+10
31603	P Kamaark	Leicester City	0.50	0	+6
31604	S Prior	Leicester City	1.00	0	+3
31605	M Elliott	Leicester City	1.50	0	+9
31701	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	0	+24
31703	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	0	+32
31704	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.00	0	+14
31705	D Matteo	Liverpool	1.00	-2	+26
31706	B Kvarme	Liverpool	2.00	-1	+5
31801	G Pallister	Manchester United	3.50	-2	+11
31802	D May	Manchester United	3.00	0	+34
31803	R Johnsen	Manchester United	2.50	-2	+22
31901	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	+3
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-12
31903	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-10
31904	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-4
31905	G Festa	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	+4
32001	B Martin	Motherwell	1.50	0	-8
32002	M Van Der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	+4	+14
32101	P Albert	Newcastle United	4.50	0	+18
32102	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+7
32103	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+17
32201	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.00	-2	+5
32202	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-2	+10
32303	D Craig	Raith Rovers	0.50	+3	-3
32304	G Mitchell	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	-1
32401	R Gough	Rangers	3.50	0	+57
32402	A McLaren	Rangers	3.00	+4	+19
32403	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	+4	+35
32404	G Petric	Rangers	2.50	+7	+14
32501	J Newsome	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+15
32502	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+33
32503	B Linighan	Sheffield Wednesday	0.25	0	0
32601	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	0	-18
32602	A Neilson	Southampton	1.00	-2	+3
32603	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	0	-2
32604	C Lundekvam	Southampton	0.50	0	-4
32605	U Van Gobbel	Southampton	1.50	0	-19
32701	A Melville	Sunderland	1.00	0	+12
32702	K Ball	Sunderland	1.00	0	+7
32703	R Ord	Sunderland	0.50	0	+11
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+4	+21
31702	J Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	+4	+10
32802	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+14
32803	G Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	0
32806	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	-6
32807	R Vega	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	0	-1
32901	S Bilic	West Ham United	2.50	0	+11
32902	M Rieper	West Ham United	2.50	0	+6
32903	S Potts	West Ham United	2.00	0	-2
32904	R Hall	West Ham United	1.50	0	0
32905	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.50	0	+4
33001	A Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0
33003	A Pearce	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
33004	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	0	+18
33005	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	0	+14
33006	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
40501	P McStay	Celtic	3.00	0	+22
40502	A Thom	Celtic	2.50	0	+27
40503	S Donnelly	Celtic	2.50	+1	+30
40504	P Grant	Celtic	1.50	0	+26
40505	P Di Canio	Celtic	3.00	+3	+55
40506	D Hannah	Celtic	1.50	+1	+11
40507	P O'Donnell	Celtic	2.50	+1	+7
40601	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50	0	+9
40602	D Wise	Chelsea	3.00	0	+38
40604	C Burley	Chelsea	2.00	+1	+31
40605	E Newton	Chelsea	2.00	0	+17
40607	D Rocastle	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
40608	R Di Matteo	Chelsea	3.00	0	+52
40609	J Morris	Chelsea	2.00	+1	+1
40610	P Hughes	Chelsea	2.00	0	+1
40701	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	0	+32
41501	G McAllister	Coventry City	5.50	+1	+55
40702	E Jess	Coventry City	2.00	+1	+32
40703	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+35
40704	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	0	+31
40705	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50	0	+28
40706	M Isaias	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
40707	W Boland	Coventry City	0.25	0	0
40708	M O'Neill	Coventry City	1.50	0	+1
40801	A Asanovic	Derby County	2.00	0	+47
40802	P Simpson	Derby County	1.50	0	+5
40803	R Van Der Laan	Derby County	1.50	+1	+21
40804	D Powell	Derby County	1.00	0	+25
40807	G Rowett	Derby County	0.50	0	+31
40809	C Dailly	Derby County	1.50	+1	+34
40901	G McSwegan	Dundee United	2.00	0	+27
40902	R Winters	Dundee United	1.50	+1	+63
40903	G Johnson	Dundee United	1.00	0	0
42003	J Dolan	Dundee United	1.00	+1	+27
42303	J McInally	Dundee United	0.75	0	+19
40904	D Bowman	Dundee United	0.75	0	+24
40905	A Benneker	Dundee United	0.50	0	+2
41001	H French	Dunfermline	1.00	+1	+42
41002	C Robertson	Dunfermline	1.00	+1	+33
41003	A Smith	Dunfermline	0.75	+1	+47
41004	D Fleming	Dunfermline	0.50	+1	+28
41102	G Speed	Everton	4.00	+1	+59
41104	J Parkinson	Everton	1.50	+1	+30
41106	T Grant	Everton	0.50	0	+11
41108	C Thomsen	Everton	2.00	+1	+10
41202	A McManus	Hearts	1.50	0	+7
41203	S Fulton	Hearts	1.00	+1	+32
41302	P McGinlay	Hibernian	1.50	+4	+40
41303	G Love	Hibernian	0.75	0	+9
41305	I Cameron	Hibernian	0.75	0	+10
41401	A Mitchell	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	+25
41402	J McIntyre	Kilmarnock	1.00	+1	+36
41403	M Skilling	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	0
41404	J Lauchlan	Kilmarnock	0.50	0	+11
41502	L Bowyer	Leeds United	3.00	0	+52
41503	A Gray	Leeds United	2.50	0	+1
41504	C Palmer	Leeds United	2.00	0	+27
41505	R Wallace	Leeds United	1.50	0	+32
41805	L Sharpe	Leeds United	3.50	0	+43
41506	I Harte	Leeds United	1.00	0	+19
41507	M Ford	Leeds United	0.50	0	+19
41508	A Couzens	Leeds United	0.50	0	+8
41510	M Jackson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+8
41601	N Lennon	Leicester City	2.00	0	+30
41602	G Parker	Leicester City	2.00	0	+32
41603	S Taylor	Leicester City	2.00	0	+20
41604	J Lawrence	Leicester City	0.25	0	+2
40606	M Izzet	Leicester City	1.00	0	+40
41701	S McManaman	Liverpool	7.00	+1	+51
41702	J McAteer	Liverpool	4.00	+1	+44
41703	J Redknapp	Liverpool	4.00	+1	+22
41704	J Barnes	Liverpool	3.00	+1	+50
41705	M Thomas	Liverpool	2.50	0	+33
41706	M Kennedy	Liverpool	1.00	0	0
41707	P Berger	Liverpool	3.00	0	+27
41801	R Giggs	Manchester United	7.00	0	+43
41802	R Keane	Manchester United	4.50	+1	+18
41803	D Beckham	Manchester United	4.00	+1	+56
41804	N Butt	Manchester United	3.50	+1	+32
41806	B McClair	Manchester United	1.50	0	+9
41807	T Cooke	Manchester United	1.00	0	0
41808	B Thornley	Manchester United	1.00	0	+1
41809	S Davies	Manchester United	0.50	0	0
41810	J Cruyff	Manchester United	2.50	0	+17
41811	K Poborsky	Manchester United	4.00	0	+27
41901	Emerson	Middlesbrough	3.50	0	+28
41902	Juninho	Middlesbrough	3.50	0	+56
41903	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	+25
41905	A Moore	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+5
41906	R Mustoe	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+30
41908	C Liddle	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+6
41909	B Robson	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+1
41910	P Stamp	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+20
42001	C McCart	Motherwell	2.00	+2	+16
42002	J Philliben	Motherwell	1.00	0	+14
42004	J Hendry	Motherwell	0.75	+1	+4
42005	S Valikarri	Motherwell	3.00	+1	+6
42101	D Ginola	Newcastle United	5.50	+1	+24
42102	R Lee	Newcastle United	5.50	0	+44
42103	K Gillespie	Newcastle United	4.50	+1	+28
42104	D Batty	Newcastle United	3.00	+1	+25
42105	L Clark	Newcastle United	3.00	+1	+21
42107	D Hamilton	Newcastle United	1.50	0	0
42201	I Woan	Nottingham Forest	4.50	+1	+35
42202	S Stone	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0	+2
42203	S Gemmill	Nottingham Forest	2.50	+1	+15
42204	C Bart-Williams	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	+20
42205	D Phillips	Nottingham Forest	1.00	+1	+27
42301	T Rougier	Raith Rovers	2.00	0	+31
42302	D Lennon	Raith Rovers	1.00	+1	+44
41304	A Millen	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	+23
42304	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	+26
42401	P Gascoigne	Rangers	7.00	0	+58
42402	B Laudrup	Rangers	5.00	+4	+68
42403	S McCall	Rangers	2.00	0	+9
42404	T Steven	Rangers	1.50	0	+8
42405	J Albertz	Rangers	4.00	+4	+59
42501	R Blinker	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+16
42502	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+45
42504	G Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+29
42507	R Jones	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42508	S Oakes	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+9
42509	W Collins	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	0	+12
42510	O Trustfull	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+13
42511	B Carbone	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	0	+31
42512	D Billington	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42601	J Magilton	Southampton	2.50	+2	+39
42604	B Venison	Southampton	1.00	0	0
42606	D Hughes	Southampton	0.50	0	+1
42906	R Slater	Southampton	1.00	+1	+15
42607	M Oakley	Southampton	0.50	+1	+27
42608	P Tisdale	Southampton	0.50	0	0
42609	M Robinson	Southampton	0.25	0	+6
42611	E Berkovic	Southampton	1.00	+1	+27
42701	M Gray	Sunderland	2.50	+3	+40

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
42702	S Agnew	Sunderland	1.50	0	+16
42703	A Rae	Sunderland	1.50	0	+14
42704	P Bracewell	Sunderland	0.75	+1	+40
42705	M Smith	Sunderland	1.00	0	+9
42706	C Waddle	Sunderland	1.50	+1	+1
42801	D Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	5.50	0	+17
42802	R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	+2	+25
42803	D Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+35
42804	J Dozzell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	+4	+12
42805	A Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+2	+39
42806	R Rosenthal	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+2	+8
42809	A Nielsen	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+2	+39
42902	I Bishop	West Ham United	2.00	0	+30
42903	M Hughes	West Ham United	2.00	0	+34
42904	D Williamson	West Ham United	1.50	0	+17
42905	J Moncur	West Ham United	1.50	0	+20
42907	S Lazarides	West Ham United	0.25	0	+14
42908	S Lomas	West Ham United	2.00	0	0
43001	R Earle	Wimbledon	4.00	+1	+65
43002	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.50	+1	+44
43003	M Gayle	Wimbledon	2.00	+1	+62
43004	V Jones	Wimbledon	1.50	+1	+34
43005	N Ardley	Wimbledon	0.50	+1	+46
43006	S Castledine	Wimbledon	0.50	0	+1
43007	P Fear	Wimbledon	0.25	0	+6

STRIKERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
50101	S Booth	Aberdeen	4.50	0	+12
50102	D Shearer	Aberdeen	3.00	+1	+7
50103	B Dodds	Aberdeen	5.00	0	+33
50201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.00	+3	+69
50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.00	+3	+42
50205	C Kiwomya	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
50206	N Anelka	Arsenal	3.00	0	0
50301	D Yorke	Aston Villa	7.50	+3	+71
50302	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	5.00	+3	+37
50304	J Joachim	Aston Villa	2.00	0	+9
50402	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	+51
50404	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+40
50405	G Ferton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+3
50407	P Pedersen	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+8
50502	J Cadete	Celtic	6.00	+1	+76
50303	T Johnson	Celtic	4.00	+1	+17
50601	G Vialli	Chelsea	5.00	+1	+41
50602	M Hughes	Chelsea	4.00	0	+45
50605	M Stein	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
50606	G Zola	Chelsea	5.00	+1	+46
50701	N Whelan	Coventry City	6.00	+2	+35
50702	D Dublin	Coventry City	5.00	+3	+36
50703	P Ndlovu	Coventry City	3.00	0	+4
52105	D Huckerby	Coventry City	0.50	+1	+35
50801	D Sturridge	Derby County	3.00	+3	+42
50802	M Gabbiadini	Derby County	2.00	0	+7
50803	A Ward	Derby County	2.00	+3	+33
50804	R Willems	Derby County	1.00	0	+18
50903	K Olafsson	Dundee United	3.00	+1	+17
51001	A Moore	Dunfermline	2.00	0	+12
51002	S Petrie	Dunfermline	2.00	0	+26
51101	D Ferguson	Everton	6.00	+1	+40
51901	N Barmby	Everton	4.00	0	+41
51102	G Stuart	Everton	3.00	+1	+36
51104	P Rideout	Everton	2.00	0	+4
51105	M Branch	Everton	1.50	0	+9
51201	J Robertson	Hearts	3.50	0	+47
51202	C Cameron	Hearts	3.50	+1	+48
51203	D Beckford	Hearts	0.50	0	+4
51301	K Wright	Hibernian	3.00	0	+23
51302	D Jackson	Hibernian	3.00	0	+47
51401	P Wright	Kilmarnock	3.00	+3	+59
51501	T Yeboah	Leeds United	7.00	0	+4
51502	I Rush	Leeds United	3.50	0	+31
51504	B Deane	Leeds United	2.00	0	+32
51506	P Laurent	Leeds United	2.00	0	0
51507	D Lilley	Leeds United	0.75	0	0
51601	S Claridge	Leicester City	2.50	0	+51
51602	E Heskey	Leicester City	2.00	0	+38
51603	M Robins	Leicester City	0.75	0	+7
51604	I Marshall	Leicester City	0

NEWS

Blair drops privatisation veto

■ Tony Blair formally tore up his party's longstanding opposition to the sale of public assets, provoking misgivings within old Labour and derision from the Tories.

The Labour leader said: "It is the public interest that is important. What counts is what works." The presumption should be that economic activity was best left to the private sector. Kenneth Clarke said he and his colleagues were a bunch of "unprincipled scoundrels" ..... Pages 1, 7-11, 16, 17

Grand National is a grand success

■ The 150th Grand National went ahead without a hitch two days late and in a carnival atmosphere. Twenty thousand punters were allowed in without paying and Aintree veterans said that when Lord Gyllene, ridden by Tony Dobbin, passed the post, they had never heard a louder roar ... Pages 1, 44, 48

'Goldfinger' arrested

Detectives were questioning John "Goldfinger" Palmer, who built up a fortune after being acquitted of melting down gold bars from Britain's biggest bullion robbery, about an alleged fraud ..... Page 1

Herbal health risk

Herbal drinks are no more healthy than ordinary soft drinks, according to the Consumers' Association. While they often claim to benefit health, some could actually be damaging ..... Page 6

Butchers face chop

Many of Britain's 12,000 small butcher's shops may close because of new regulations expected in today's report on the *E. coli* epidemic, their trade organisation claimed ..... Page 2

On the wrong track

Job cuts and fare rises across much of the privatised railway industry were predicted in a damning report produced for the pressure group Save Our Railways ..... Page 6

Liam and Patsy wed

Liam Gallagher and Patsy Kensit, Britpop's most turbulent couple, went through a simple marriage ceremony at Westminster Register Office in Marylebone Road ..... Page 3

Zaire turncoats

Hundreds of Zairean government troops changed sides and donned white headbands to signal their allegiance to rebels closing in on the second largest city, Lubumbashi ..... Page 12

Minicab sex attacker

A minicab driver was jailed for 14 years for a series of sex attacks made over four years on single women after he had driven them home ..... Page 3

Airspace alert

South African airline pilots have warned again of accidents in African airspace because of the collapse of air traffic controls right across Africa ..... Page 12

Churches collect

More than 150 rural church buildings will share £12.5 million of lottery money if a bid by the Rural Churches in Community Service succeeds ..... Page 4

In the beginning

The Book of Genesis was cited in an Australian lawsuit about Noah's Ark brought by a scientist and a marine salvage expert against a creationist ..... Page 13

Faithful servants

Dorothea Copping, of Blakeney, Norfolk, whose estate was valued at £545,000, left her housekeeper, her gardener and her chauffeur £175,000 between them ..... Page 5

China censure move

Britain backed Denmark's decision to sponsor a resolution condemning China's record at the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva ..... Page 13

"Sugar" takes a sweet $31m payslip

■ Shigeru Myojin, 47, who runs Salomon Brothers' proprietary trading and risk management operations in London, was paid $31 million last year. Known to colleagues as "Sugar", he drives a Ferrari, has been known to cycle round the dealing room and occasionally appears for work wearing a US army helmet and wielding a baseball bat ..... Page 1



PHIL NOBLE/NEWSTEAM

The *Coronation Street* actor William Roache, a long-standing Tory supporter, with Christine and Neil Hamilton at their home in Alderley Edge, Cheshire. Mrs Hamilton said there was no reason for the husband to stand down in Tatton. Page 1

BUSINESS

Lloyd's of London: Equitas, the reinsurance company formed to take on billions of pounds of Lloyd's risks, could be forced into receivership ..... Page 25

Football payouts: Manchester United is to pay its players so much in bonuses if it wins the European Champions Cup that it will make a loss if it is victorious in the final ..... Page 25

Sterling performance: The pound surged past the old European Exchange Rate Mechanism floor, reaching its highest level since it left the ERM in 1992 ..... Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 35.1 to 4271.7. Sterling rose from 98.6 to 99.4 after a fall from $1.6402 to $1.6297 but rising from DM2.7490 to DM2.7879 ..... Page 28

SPORT

Football: Manchester United prepared for the European Cup semi-final against Borussia Dortmund warmed by words of encouragement from the England coach, Glenn Hoddle ..... Page 45

Golf: Nick Faldo will need to improve his putting to be a contender at the Masters, which starts in Augusta on Thursday ..... Page 46

Equestrianism: The Royal International Horse Show and the British Jumping Derby are unlikely to be run at Hickstead this year unless a sponsor can be found in the next few weeks ..... Page 43

Cricket: Ireland will contest a play-off for a place in the next World Cup after losing to Kenya by seven runs in the ICC Trophy semi-finals in Malaysia ..... Page 43

ARTS

Bits and pieces: Richard Cork on the Hayward's survey of contemporary British sculpture from the 1980s and 90s, from Damien Hirst to Sarah Lucas ..... Page 33

Word games: Daragh Carville's play *Language Roulette* explores dark secrets among friends in Belfast, but when the denouement comes, Benedict Nightingale is unmoved ..... Page 34

Coming soon: Carol Allen on the movers and shakers in the world of film distribution and initiatives that could improve choice for British film-goers ..... Page 35

Classical choice: Michael Oliver scrutises recordings of Verdi's *Aida* and despite strong contention from Callas and Price plumps for Caballé with Muti ..... Page 35

FEATURES

Information upheaval: We are on the threshold of the most sweeping revolution. Microprocessing will subvert and destroy the nation state, say James Dale Davidson and William Rees-Mogg ... Page 15

BODY AND MIND

The culture trap: Few Asian girls cross the East-West divide without paying a price ..... Page 14

The Big Five-O: The pictures of Elton John's birthday party will have alarmed anyone approaching their half century ..... Page 14

LAW

Wanna know a secret? Keeping secrets is becoming harder for professional people. John Hayes looks at confidentiality ..... Page 37

Dirty business: Most governments have been ambivalent when addressing corrupt payments in international trade. However, attitudes appear to be changing ..... Page 39

THE PAPERS

Unless the Labour leader changes course, the 14 other members of the EU would be wrong to think that the replacement of the Tories by Labour will put an end to London's opposing stance. Mr Blair is undoubtedly not ideologically stubborn about the idea of Europe, but he remains fundamentally opposed to a federal-style integration. He says so, and his programme confirms it — *Le Monde*

IN THE TIMES

Previews: A dream of an Islamic government in Britain. *Witness: Tottenham Ayatollah* (Channel 4, 9pm). **Review:** Peter Barnard on the small investor ..... Page 47

OPINION

Euro or bust

Chancellor Kohl has decided that it is the euro in 1999 or bust. The most important challange facing John Major or Tony Blair is to ensure it is not both ..... Page 17

The price of loyalty

Loyalty may in the past have been the Tories' secret weapon: it is about to inflict on the party a grievous wound ..... Page 17

National day

The IRA may have been able to ruin the weekend for tens of thousands with a coward's call. But what they disrupted they could not destroy ..... Page 17

COMMENT

ROSS McKIBBEN

If Labour wins it will be for two reasons: because it is not the Conservative Party, and because it is not very different from the Conservative Party. Yet, while that might be a good way of winning this election, it is a terrible way of winning the next ..... Page 16

ANTHONY HOWARD

Bizarre as it may at first appear, the decision by the Labour and Liberal Democrat parties to wheel forward Martin Bell as their anti-sleaze candidate in Tatton is not without precedent. Nearly 60 years ago much the same thing happened in Oxford City ..... Page 16

PETER RIDDELL

Tony Blair is almost making his appeal "Tory measures, Labour men". That poses the awkward question of whether the Labour team wants or is able to perform that task ..... Page 10

OBITUARIES

Captain Nicholas Barker, Captain of *HMS Endurance* during the Falklands War; **Betty Saunders**, journalist; **Roberto Sáucher Vilella**, former Governor of Puerto Rica ..... Page 19

LETTERS

Jerusalem settlements; the education gender gap; Freemasons and the law; bomb hoaxes; the election ..... Page 17



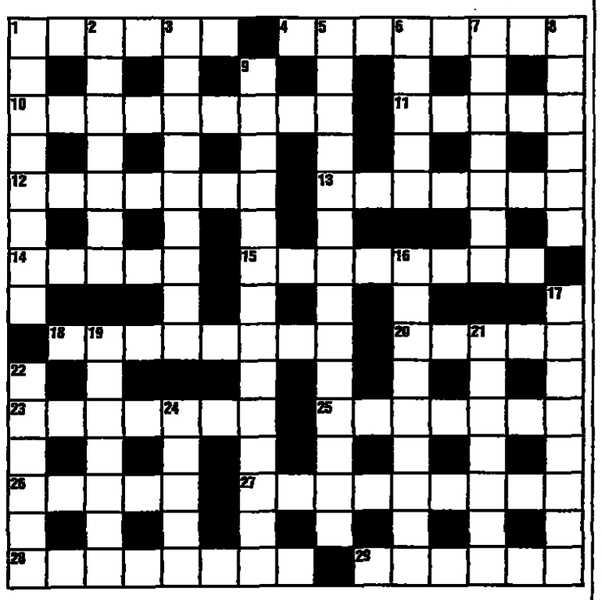
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **INTERFACE**
How do you keep track of 60,000 feet? The technology behind the London Marathon

■ **PROPERTY**
What is your home worth? A 14-page pull-out report has the latest on prices

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,448



ACROSS

1 On bay, perhaps, or a different sort of horse (6).
4 Occasionally switch positions of cricket sides (3,3,2).
10 Turn up with fresh request for admission (4,5).
11 Choose to attack (2,3).
12 Not for nothing, as they say, did one get fed like this? (7).
13 Put up tax, in general, by a quarter (7).
14 Free a knight that's pulled back in worst position (5).
15 Backing favourites, leading to relative success (8).
18 King joining crowd entering first-class party in winter resort (5-3).
20 Short time before hill drive (5).
23 A saintly band (7).
25 Capital decoration for best granny, say (7).
26 Leaks and goes down in river? Just the reverse (5).
27 Fish has gone bad in basket (6,3).
28 Give support to minor having no place in community (8).
29 Intelligence test for superior class (6).

DOWN

1 Bird said to finish flight in faraway city (8).
2 Car with open carrier outside for Primate (7).
3 Competitive runner people support (9).
5 Make an artistic impression in touching digital recording (14).
6 Urge a re-run in contest (5).
7 Secures victory by extremely deceptive exploits (7).
8 Source of information journalist's put out (6).
9 Achieve reconciliation and restore good neighbourhood? (4,4,6).
16 Upward discharge with firearm necessary for hunter, perhaps (9).
17 Book on rugby match written in crude style (8).
19 Sailor's left in charge round entrance (7).
21 Contribution of single to batting in cricket match is minimal (7).
22 Play up to pawn with king (6).
24 Lake supporting river bird (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 48

Solution to Puzzle No 20,447

A	I	R	Y		B	L	A	C	K	B	E	R	R	Y
L		A			O		O		A		E			E
A	X	I	S		S	T	O	N	E	C	H	A	T	S
R		L		B		T		C		H		S		M
M	A	R	C	O	P	O	L	O		E	R	O	D	E
I		O		R			U		L		N		N	
S	T	A	N	D	I	N	G	R	O	O	M			
T		D		E		S		R		U		L		
			T	R	I	G	G	E	R	H	A	P	P	Y
A		B		C		O			O		R		R	
C	R	E	D	O		T	E	M	P	O	R	I	S	E
O		A		L		I		D		S		B		
U	N	R	E	L	I	A	B	L	E		K	I	W	I
I		E		I		T		A			N		R	
T	H	R	E	E	P	E	N	N	Y		A	G	E	D

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be dry and fairly sunny. Winds mostly light, allowing temperatures to rise above the seasonal average. Scotland and Northern Ireland mainly dry at first, with bright or sunny periods. Early outbreaks of rain or drizzle in northwest Scotland will drift south, reaching Northern Ireland and southwest Scotland in the evening. Temperatures should be near or a little above average.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales:** dry, sunny periods. Wind southeasterly, light to moderate. Warm, max 16C (61F).

☐ **E England, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, NE England:** dry, sunny periods. Wind southerly, light to moderate. Warm, max 16C (61F).

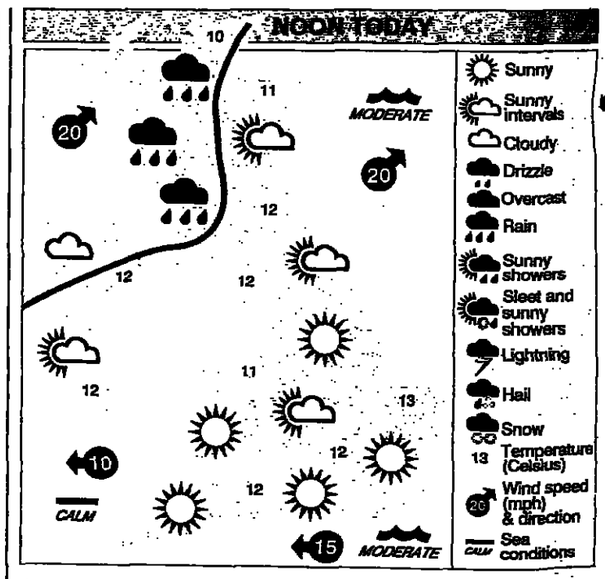
☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** bright or sunny periods. Becoming more cloudy later but staying dry. Wind fresh, south or southwesterly. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland:** bright spells for a time, but becoming cloudy with patchy rain or drizzle. Wind fresh, occasionally strong, south or southwesterly. Max 15C (59F).

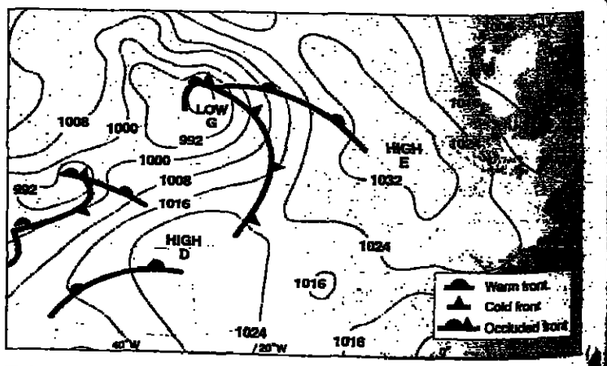
☐ **NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy, rain or drizzle at times. Perhaps becoming clearer later. Wind strong, southwesterly. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Outlook:** mostly dry and warm with sunny periods, patchy rain in Scotland.

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart: high D will build slowly as it drifts east toward Ireland; high E will slide southeast as it declines; low G will remain stationary and fill



AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	X				
Anglesey	2.0	-	15	59	b
Aspatria	2.5	0.01	14	57	r
Aviemore	0.3	0.02	12	54	c
Belfast	5.0	0.01	15	59	b
Birmingham	7.9	-	15	59	s
Bognor R	11.7	-	13	54	s
Bournem'th	9.8	-	13	55	s
Bristol	X				
Buxton	-	-	11	52	c
Cardiff	10.0	-	14	57	s
Clacton	12.2	-	X	X	s
Cleethorpes	X				
Colwyn Bay	-	-	11	52	c
Cromer	6.0	-	13	55	s
Dunbar	X				
Eastbourne	10.8	-	11	52	s
Edinburgh	X				
Eskdalemuir	-	0.04	11	52	fg
Exmouth	8.5	-	11	52	s
Falmouth	X				
Fishguard	6.5	-	14	57	s
Folkestone	12.3	-	12	54	s
Glasgow	0.4	0.01	15	59	b
Guernsey	X	-	15	59	s
Hastings	12.2	-	11	52	s
Hayling I.	11.2	-	11	52	s
Heme Bay	11.5	-	X	X	s
Hove	5.4	-	13	55	s
Hunstanton	X	-	14	57	b
Ilfracombe	X				
Isle of Man	2.9	-	12	54	s
Jersey	11.9	-	13	55	s
Kinloss	-	0.01	12	54	c
Leeds	-	0.01	12	54	r
Lerwick	0.4	0.24	10	50	r
Leuchars	-	-	15	59	b
Littlehmptn	10.4	-	12	54	s
London	11.9	-	15	59	s
Lowestoft	7.2	-	13	55	s
Manchester	-	0.01	12	54	c
Margate	12.0	-	10	50	s
Minehead	X				
Morecambe	-	-	12	54	c
Newcastle	X				
Norwich	4.9	-	13	55	b
Poole	8.5	-	13	55	s
Prestatyn	X	0.01	12	54	c
Ross-o-wye	9.8	-	15	59	s
Ryde	11.8	-	11	52	s
Salcombe	9.2	-	12	54	s
Sandown	11.1	-	11	52	s
Saunton Snd	8.6	-	16	61	s
Scarboro'	0.4	0.02	13	55	c
Shanklin	11.9	-	11	52	s
Shrewsbury	2.3	0.01	15	59	du
Skegness	2.8	-	14	57	s
Southend	X	-	15	59	s
Southport	-	0.01	12	54	c
Southsea	9.2	-	11	52	s
Stornoway	0.3	0.01	12	54	c
Swanage	9.5	-	10	50	s
Teignmouth	9.2	-	12	54	s
Tenby	9.5	-	12	54	s
Torquay	9.0	-	12	54	s
Tynemouth	-	-	15	59	c
Ventnor	11.9	-	11	52	s
Weymouth	9.0	-	11	52	s

ABROAD

Ajaccio	17	63	s	Corfu	14	57	f	Majorca	21	70	s
Alicante	14	57	f	C'phagn	5	41	s	Malaga	20	68	s
Alex'dria	16	61	c	Dublin	13	55	c	Malta	17	63	c
Algiers	22	72	s	Dubrovnik	11	52	f	Melb'rne	19	66	f
Amst'dam	9	48	f	Faro	19	66	f	Mexico C	23	73	s
Athens	13	55	f	Florence	17	63	c	Miami	26	79	s
B Aires	21	70	s	Frankfurt	7	45	f	Milan	24	75	s
Bahrain	30	86	s	Funchal	21	70	s	Montreal	9	48	s
Bangkok	34	93	s	Geneva	14	57	f	Moscow	1	34	c
Barbados	28	79	c	Gibraltar	20	68	f	Munich	5	41	c
Barcelona	20	68	s	Helsinki	0	32	sn	N Delhi	25	77	s
Beirut	19	66	f	Hong K	21	70	f	N York	21	70	f
Belgrade	11	52	c	Innsbruck	5	41	r	Nairobi	26	79	f
Berlin	4	39	sn	Istanbul	10	50	f	Naples	17	63	f
Bermuda	17	63	c	Jeddah	28	82	s	Nice	17	63	s
Biarritz	20	68	s	Jo'burg	19	66	s	Oslo	6	43	s
Borde'x	17	63	s	L Angels	17	63	s	Paris	14	57	f
Brussels	9	48	s	L Palmas	22	72	f	Peking	20	68	s
Budapst	8	46	f	La Tquet	11	52	f	Perth	25	77	f
Cairo	22	72	c	Lisbon	17	63	f	Prague	4	39	f
Cape Tn	X			Locarno	21	70	s	Reykjavik	3	37	c
Ch'church	16	61	s	Luxembg	7	45	f	Rhodes	12	54	s
Chicago	6	43	f	Lyngr	28	82	s	Rio de J	22	72	f
Cologne	9	48	s	Madrid	21	70	s	Riyadh	32	90	f
Rome	15	59	f								
S Fr'isco	13	55	s								
S Paulo	18	64	c								
Salzburg	6	41	c								
Santiago	26	77	s								
Seoul	10	50	f								
Sing'por	32	90	f								
St'kholm	1	34	s								
Strasb'rg	11	52	f								
Sydney	26	79	s								
Tangier	22	72	s								
Tel Aviv	28	82	c								
Tenerife	22	72	f								
Tokyo	14	57	r								
Toronto	21	70	s								
Tunis	18	64	f								
Valencia	22	72	s								
Vanc'ver	8	46	s								
Venice	16	61	s								
Vienna	5	41	f								
Warsaw	0	32	sn								
Wash'ton	17	63	f								
Wel'ngton	20	68	x								
Zurich	9	48	c								

Temperatures at midday local time Sunday X = not available

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	03.06	7.4	15.25	7.6	Leith	03.49	5.9	16.07	6.0
Aberdeen	02.37	4.4	14.47	4.6	Liverpool	00.24	9.9	12.43	10.2
Avonmouth	06.42	14.2	21.03	14.1	Lowestoft	10.58	2.5	23.03	2.7
Belfast	00.15	3.5	12.32	3.7	Margate	01.03	4.8	13.45	4.8
Cardiff	06.28	13.1	20.49	13.0	Milford Haven	07.39	7.5	20.01	7.4
Devonport	07.13	5.7	19.38	5.6	Newquay	06.30	7.5	18.52	7.4
Dover	00.06	7.0	12.30	6.9	Oban	07.15	4.3	19.29	4.1
Dublin (N Wall)	00.48	4.3	13.00	4.5	Penzance	06.00	5.9	18.22	5.8
Falmouth	06.44	5.5	19.09	5.4	Portland	08.24	2.2	20.51	2.2
Greenock	01.46	3.3	14.09	3.6	Portsmouth	00.25	4.9	12.42	4.8
Harwich	00.53	4.2	13.27	4.3	Shoreham	00.20	6.6	12.38	6.5
Holyhead	11.42	6.1	-	-	Southampton	-	-	12.12	4.8
Hull (Albert D)	07.41	9.0	19.50	9.4	Swansea	07.47	10.4	20.08	10.2
Ilfracombe	07.27	10.0	19.47	9.9	Tees	05.03	5.7	17.15	5.8
King's Lynn	07.55	7.1	19.59	7.5	Walton-on-N	00.48	4.4	13.18	4.4

All times GMT. Heights in metres

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.20 am
Sun sets: 7.46 pm
Moon sets 9.13 pm
Moon rises 7.04 am

London 7.46 pm to 6.18 am
Bristol 7.55 pm to 6.28 am
Edinburgh 8.06 pm to 6.23 am
Manchester 7.57 pm to 6.23 am
Penzance 8.05 pm to 6.42 am

First quarter April 14

Latest Road and Weather conditions

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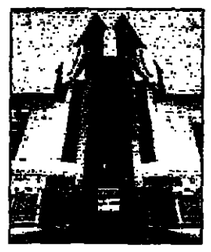
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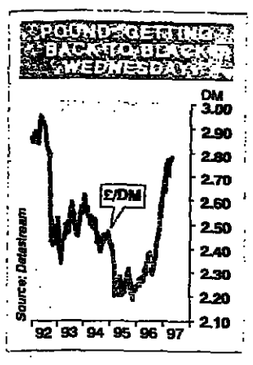
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Carol Allen on the people who fill our cinema screens
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Moller turns his attention towards Manchester United
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FOCUS ON SMALL BUSINESS PAGE 21

Pound at highest since leaving the ERM



BY ALASDAIR MURRAY AND PHILIP BASSETT

THE POUND surged past its old European exchange-rate mechanism floor yesterday, reaching its highest level since it left the ERM in September 1992. Sterling closed more than 4 pfennigs higher at DM2.7879, compared with an ERM floor of 2.7780. The pound has now risen by more than 22 per cent against the mark since last August.

Sterling's trade weighted index also climbed sharply, from 98.8 to 99.4. But the pound fell back just over a cent to $1.6297 against a resurgent dollar. Sterling remains some way short of its former ERM central rate of DM2.95, although traders expect it to push on towards DM2.80 soon.

The continuing strength of the pound reflects the hardening market consensus that rates will need to rise steeply after the election. Rates are not expected to change after Thursday's monthly monetary meeting between the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England but the City is predicting that an incoming Chancellor will raise base rates by as much as half a point next month.

New data published by the Confederation of British Industry yesterday showed that confidence in the financial services sector rose for the fifth consecutive quarter, although at the slowest rate for over a year.

The pound is also benefiting from the rise in the dollar, which has climbed on expectations that the Fedeal Reserve will make further interest rate rises. The mark was weakened by renewed political optimism that European Monetary Union will proceed on time.

Shares climbed in London, helped by a recovery on Wall Street, with the FT-SE 100 closing up 35.1 points at 4,271.7. Dealers said worries about rate rises in the UK and the US are likely to cap any further rises.

The CBI described the findings of its latest survey of the financial services sector as "encouraging." A net balance of 26 per cent of firms reported an increase in optimism — the smallest increase since December 1995. General insurers reported a fall in optimism, with securities traders and life insurers recording the biggest increases in confidence.

Business volumes rose "moderately", with a net rise of 17 per cent — down on the previous quarter's figure, which showed the strongest rate of increase since December 1989. The survey of more than 300 firms, carried out with consultants Coopers & Lybrand, showed volumes rising most strongly among private individuals and financial institutions.

Profitability among financial service companies also rose moderately, with a net 23 per cent of firms reporting an increase, compared with 48 per cent in the previous survey, which was the sharpest increase since September 1994. Companies expect profitability to rise more quickly over the coming three months.

The overall pick-up in employment was quicker than had been forecast, with the number of people employed in financial services rising for the first time since September 1995, although companies expect it to level off over the next three months.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4271.7	(+35.1)
Yield	3.77%	
FTSE All share	2077.88	(+12.91)
Nikkei	17715.87	(-144.92)
New York:		
Dow Jones	6577.06	(+50.99)*
S&P Composite	763.37	(+5.47)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5⅛%*	(5¼%)
Long Bond	94⅝nd*	(93²⁹₃₂nd)
Yield	7.08%*	(7.12%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⅝%	(6⅝%)
Life long gilt future (Jun)	109¹₃₂	(108²⁹₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6280*	(1.6343)
London:		
$	1.6297	(1.6403)
DM	2.7884	(2.7488)
FFr	9.3823	(9.2538)
SFr	2.3924	(2.3487)
Yen	204.94	(203.62)
£ Index	99.4	(98.6)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.7085*	(1.6863)
FFr	5.7500*	(5.6765)
SFr	1.4645*	(1.4429)
Yen	125.55*	(124.30)
$ Index	105.4	(104.3)

Tokyo close Yen 124.75

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jun) $18.25 ($17.95)

GOLD

London close $349.30 ($347.45)

* denotes midday trading price

Equitas doubtful about its survival

BY JON ASHWORTH

THE precarious state of Lloyd's of London's recovery was underlined yesterday, when Equitas, the reinsurance company formed to take on billions of pounds in long-term Lloyd's risks, conceded that it could be forced into receivership.

Coopers & Lybrand, auditor to Equitas, says "significant uncertainties" surrounding the extent of outstanding claims, means Equitas may not be able to meet its insurance liabilities in full. This would effectively push it into receivership, with disastrous consequences for London's standing in world insurance.

The warning is contained in Equitas's maiden set of report and accounts, which catalogues generous levels of pay in the Equitas boardroom. Michael Crall, chief executive, received remuneration of nearly £430,000 in the eight months to September 4, when Equitas became operational. Mr Crall, an American, was guaranteed a minimum bonus of £100,000 during his first year, and received £75,000 towards his relocation to the UK.

Total fees to auditors reached £9.4 million. Coopers & Lybrand was paid nearly £5 million, with the balance due to auditors across a range of Lloyd's syndicates. Costs associated with the formation of Equitas totalled £130 million.

More disturbing is the extent to which Coopers & Lybrand has qualified the Equitas accounts. The firm gives warning that future claims experience is likely to differ from estimated liabilities, "potentially to a material degree". Significant uncertainties surround three key provisions — £14.8 billion in outstanding claims; £4.3 billion in reinsurers' share of these claims; and £1.5 billion in reinsurance recoveries.

A downward adjustment could be sufficient to wipe out Equitas's surplus of £588 million, as at September 4. This would trigger a "proportionate cover" clause, under which Equitas would be entitled to pay claims at a reduced rate. Failing this, Equitas could be tipped into receivership.

Equitas was a key plank in the Lloyd's reconstruction and renewal (R&R) plan. It took on 1992 and prior-year liabilities for Lloyd's syndicates, ringfencing 34,000 names from past losses.

The Equitas premium for reinsuring prior-year losses, pegged at £14.7 billion, had fallen to £11.2 billion by September.

Sir David Berriman, chairman of the Association of Lloyd's Names, said he was "troubled" by the inevitable qualification, while recognising that Equitas was doing all it could to reduce uncertainty. He said: "Reinsured names need as much reassurance as they can get." Equitas hopes to provide a clearer picture of liabilities by March 1998. David Newbigging, chairman of Equitas and former head of Jardine Matheson, said the company had inherited a mass of untested data. He said: "It does not necessarily mean there is a huge potential black hole on the downside."

Mr Newbigging received nearly £206,000 in remuneration last year. Jane Barker, the former Stock Exchange chief who signed up as finance director in December 1995, received nearly £230,000, including a guaranteed minimum bonus of £40,000.



Crall: £430,000 package



On the ball: Martin Edwards, Manchester United's chief executive, reported a 42 per cent rise in half-year profits before tax and transfers

Glory at a price for Manchester

BY JASON NISSÉ

MANCHESTER UNITED will pay so much in bonuses to players if it wins the European Cup that it would incur a loss out of appearing in the final, the Premiership football club said yesterday.

United plays Borussia Dortmund tomorrow in the first leg of the semi-final, vying for a place in next month's final. However, David Gill, United's finance director, said: "Financially, it is better to lose the final than win it."

United would not detail the bonus structure, but said that the revenue for the final would be slightly less than that from appearing in the semi-final, which it revealed to be £1.75 million. Martin Edwards, chief executive, said the bonus payments for winning the cup were "very high".

The club has been renegotiating its contracts with its senior professionals to put them on deals that last up to five years in order to overcome the effects of the Bosman ruling in the European Court, which allows footballers to leave clubs at the end of contracts for no fee. This has led to an increase in United's annual wage bill of nearly £6 million. Mr Edwards said three leading players had yet to sign new deals and one has a contract that ends this summer.

Despite the wage rise, profits before tax and transfer fees rose 42.5 per cent to £15.7 million in the six months to January 31. Earnings per share were up a sixth at 21.4p and the interim dividend is raised to 1.9p (1.6p), payable on May 14.

Mr Edwards said the improvement was partially because of the increased capacity at the club's Old Trafford stadium, which now holds 55,000, and the club's success in Europe.

The club is now looking at plans to further increase revenues, including United shops in the Far East, possibly in partnership with a local company. United translates its club magazine into Thai, selling 20,000 per issue.

On the most exciting potential future revenue stream, Mr Edwards said that talks about a deal to bring in pay-per-view televising of matches had yet to begin. There is an agreement with BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*, that the FA Premiership can bring in pay-per-view on a 50-50 joint venture basis with BSkyB at the beginning of the 1999-2000 season.

However, the clubs have yet to agree among themselves how to deal with pay-per-view, never mind how to negotiate with a third party.

Pennington, page 27

London Clubs drops £200m bid

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY AND KEITH RODGERS

LONDON Clubs International, the casino company, yesterday dropped its £200 million bid for rival Capital Corporation after the Government said it was referring the bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

It also emerged that Capital has offered to make up any losses suffered by its employee pension fund after contributions were diverted to a bank account for two years.

The decision to refer the bid took the City — and both companies — by surprise, with shares in Capital falling 14p to 186p, while London Club shares dropped 7p to 401½p. A successful London Clubs bid would have resulted in the company controlling about two thirds of the London casino market. But analysts pointed to the fact that casinos are already tightly regulated and that most of the members, of what are effectively private clubs, come from overseas.

London Clubs appeared uncertain last night about its future intentions. The MMC report is due to be completed by July 7, and if favourable, London Clubs would be able to start the bid process again.

The trustees of the pension fund withheld contributions from a Norwich Union pension scheme from the beginning of 1995. Instead, company and employee contributions for the 100 scheme members were paid into a TSB deposit account, held by Sedgwick Noble Lowndes, until a new pension scheme was launched this January. Garry Nesbitt, chairman of Capital, and David Gray, a fellow director, are directors of Crockford Holdings, the corporate pension trustee.

The situation was highlighted in a report commissioned by Deloitte & Touche, the company's auditor, in the autumn of 1995. It is understood that Deloitte discovered the trustees had failed to prepare accounts for the scheme since it was launched in 1990, and no trustee meetings had been held.

In a letter to employees last December the company claimed it had diverted the funds while reviewing its pension arrangements. It added: "If the TSB account has not performed as well as the Norwich Union fund, the company will make up the shortfall."

Tempus, page 28

Pearson's £130,000 'hello' to Scardino

BY ERIC REGULY

MARJORIE SCARDINO was paid a £130,000 "golden hello" when she became chief executive of Pearson, the media and entertainment group that owns the *Financial Times*, in January.

The Pearson annual report, published yesterday, revealed that the payment came on top of her annual base salary of £396,500, which Pearson said "is deemed" to be £425,000 when a portion of her £60,500 housing allowance is included.

Ms Scardino, the former chief executive of *The Economist*, which is 50 per cent owned by Pearson, is also to be conditionally awarded Pearson shares valued at £300,000 this year, £200,000 next year and another £200,000 in 1999 as part of the share incentive plan. It comes into effect when the total return to Pearson shareholders over a three-year period exceeds the return of the FT-SE 100 index by 25 per cent.

The total pay of Pearson's executive directors in 1996 fell by about half because no payments under the share incentive plan were made in 1996. The next payments are to come in 1998. Lord Blakenham, the chairman who is to be replaced by Dennis Stevenson at the annual meeting in May, saw his total remuneration fall from £750,000 to £353,000.

Ms Scardino hopes to reveal more information next month on the unauthorised discounts offered to retailers by a Penguin books employee in New Jersey, costing Pearson £100 million.

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JOHN CHARCOL

Cowie declares victory

Cowie, the transport group, has declared victory in its fight to oust as a director Neil Pykett, former head of its leasing division, by shareholder vote.

Of the 41 per cent of votes cast by proxy, 97 per cent were for formally removing Mr Pykett. He formally resigned at the weekend, before votes were counted, and intends to sue Cowie for unfair dismissal.

Cowie shares, which have fallen 10 per cent since the dispute became public, rose 2½p to 198½p.

Pennington, page 27

Jobless fall

Unemployment in the Irish Republic fell in March to its lowest for six years. The number claiming jobless benefit fell to 262,400 (11.9 per cent). The seasonally adjusted figure rose by 900.

Utilities deal

United Utilities is to sell its 50 per cent stakes in two US power producers, in Florida and Virginia, in a £25 million deal. They go to Indeck, a private fund operating power projects.

AIT contract

AIT, of Henley-on-Thames, has won a multimillion-pound contract to deliver a composite banking desktop system for KeyCorp, the tenth-largest US bank.

Bankers Trust pays $1.7bn for oldest US broking firm

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

BANKERS TRUST, the New York bank, is buying Alex Brown, America's oldest stockbroking firm, in a $1.7 billion deal that challenges the law that has separated US banks from securities companies for more than 60 years.

The takeover is expected to be the first of many as banks take advantage of the recent relaxation by US banking regulators of the 1933 Glass Steagal Act. Other leading Wall Street securities firms vulnerable to takeover include Salomon Brothers, Lehman Brothers and Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette as commercial banks aim to cash in on the huge profits enjoyed by brokerage houses in the stock market boom. Some analysts believe that even Merrill Lynch, the largest US broking house, may be forced to link with a bank.

In an all-paper deal Bankers Trust is paying $68.26 for each Alex Brown share, a significant premium to the Baltimore broker's market price on Friday of $41.30. A large premium was inevitable because Alex Brown had been approached by several US and European banks in recent months as the consolidation mania on Wall Street heated up.

Frank Newman, chairman of Bankers, will be chairman of the merged company, while A. B. "Buzzy" Krongard, head of Alex Brown, will be deputy.

The acquisition will push Bankers firmly into the institutional equity underwriting and issuing business. It is part of the bank's move into new areas of investment banking by buying existing firms such as Wolfensohn & Co, the corporate finance boutique that it acquired last year.

Bankers has been rebuilding its business and reputation in wholesale banking after a debacle in the derivatives markets in the early 1990s which led to court cases with Proctor & Gamble among others, and a fine from the Securities and Exchange Commission. Although it is a traditional deposit-taking institution, it has moved further than most commercial banks into investment banking areas.

The current wave of banking consolidation was encouraged by the Federal Reserve Board's decision last year to increase the proportion of securities business that commercial banks were allowed to undertake.

The restriction was imposed during the Depression because securities losses in the 1929 Crash were thought to have caused widespread bank collapses that deepened the economic turmoil at the time. But recent changes in banking markets have undermined the rule and led to calls for its abolition.

EBRD acts to stamp out revolt

BY OLIVER AUGUST

THE European Bank for Reconstruction and Development will today quash an internal revolt by Belgian employees to have one of their own appointed vice-president of the institute dedicated to distributing government aid to Eastern Europe.

The vice-presidential position, which is traditionally reserved for an American, will be vacated by Ron Freeman, a former Wall Street banker, and a new US candidate is to be presented to the supervisory board today.

But Belgium, one of the 57 member countries of the bank, has waged a behind-the-scenes campaign to ditch the unofficial dictum that hands control over the bank's investment activities to America.

While Belgium is emphasising that the American dominance is hindering the European nature of the bank's task, it has also been suggested that the Belgian initiative is the work of one individual trying to advance his own career.

Candidates for vice-president are presented by the EBRD management to the supervisory board. Informal discussions before today's meeting are thought to have eliminated the Belgian employee from the list of candidates. The new vice-president, expected to be another Wall Street banker, will be appointed this week.

ANDRÉ CAMARA



Rowland Gee, managing director, left, and Terence Donovan of Moss Bros

Moss Bros dressed for success

MOSS BROS aims to increase its share of the UK men's suit market to 15 per cent from 5 per cent over three years, with the return of the feel-good, look-good factor that has restored the popularity of the three-piece suit, the company said yesterday (Morag Preston writes).

In the year to January 31 the specialist menswear retailer achieved a 41 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £15.9 million.

Terence Donovan, finance director, said: "Coming out of the recession, men, or their wives, have decided that they don't want to look dowdy any more."

Turnover increased 39 per cent, to £121.9 million, compared with £87.5 million last time. A final dividend of 17.5p a share makes a total of 24p, an increase of 33 per cent on last year.

Tempus, page 28

Pension claims fund seeks £2m

BY SARA MCCONNELL

AN ESTIMATED 200,000 company pension schemes face levies totalling £2 million to set up the first industry compensation fund for scheme members. The fund will pay out to employees whose employer fraudulently misappropriates pension fund money and then collapses, leaving the employees facing losses.

Julian Farrand, chairman of the new Pensions Compensation Board, said at the PCB's launch yesterday that the compensation scheme was a direct response to Robert Maxwell's theft in 1991 of an estimated £450 million from his employees' pension funds. He said: "We are part of the Maxwell legacy."

The compensation scheme, which the PCB will operate, is part of a tightening up of protection for occupational scheme members under the Pensions Act 1995, which came into force last Sunday. Under the scheme, employees will be able to claim compensation for 90 per cent of their losses. But they will not be able to claim unless their employer is insolvent as well as dishonest. The compensation fund is intended to be a last resort for employees who have no other avenue of redress.

The Board has not yet received any claims. But observers fear there could be a flood of applicants who have been waiting for the start of the scheme. Dr Farrand expects the majority of claims to be made by independent trustees appointed by company liquidators.

Individual members and administrators can also claim, although the compensation can only be paid to trustees under the rules of the scheme.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.19	2.09
Austria Sch	20.32	18.82
Belgium Fr	59.85	55.35
Canada $	2.384	2.214
Cyprus Cypt	0.857	0.797
Denmark Kr	11.04	10.24
Finland Mkk	8.76	8.08
France Fr	9.70	9.00
Germany Dm	2.91	2.69
Greece Dr	451	425
Hong Kong $	13.36	12.26
Iceland	120	100
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Israel Shk	5.78	5.13
Italy Lira	2674	2674
Japan Yen	217.20	201.20
Malta	0.653	0.598
Netherlds Gld	3.259	3.009
New Zealand $	2.51	2.29
Norway Kr	11.85	10.85
Portugal Esc	287.50	267.50
S Africa Rd	7.78	6.98
Spain Pta	243.00	228.00
Sweden Kr	13.18	12.18
Switzerland Fr	2.48	2.30
Turkey Lira	215791	201781
USA $	1.728	1.598

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

BT to create 2,000 jobs in the North

BRITISH TELECOM yesterday announced plans to create 2,000 jobs at two telemarketing centres in Doncaster and North Tyneside. Almost all of the jobs will be part-time and will pay about £5 an hour. BT said the sites will cost £15 million each and will open in the autumn. The centres will use "cold calling" to sell BT products, such as the Friends & Family discount package, charge cards and Internet access, to existing customers.

Another office, in Bristol, specialises in convincing non-BT customers to switch to BT. BT has found that telemarketing can be more effective than direct-mail campaigns. In the UK, an estimated 250,000 people, or 1 per cent of the workforce, work in telemarketing, against about 3 per cent in America.

Nintendo lifts forecast

NINTENDO, the Japanese video games company, has raised its profit forecast for this year on the back of booming sales of its new Nintendo 64 console. The company, fighting a fierce video games war with Sony and Sega, predicted profits of Y63 billion (£300 million) this year, up from a previous estimate of Y48 billion. However, Nintendo said that a Y26 billion charge to cover rationalisation of European operations would cut 1996 profits to Y35 billion, down from a projected Y48 billion.

Theft of $1m alleged

A BIRMINGHAM businessman stole more than $1 million from the Salvation Army in 1992 to stave off creditors and save his home and business premises, Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday. The prosecution said Stuart Christopher Ford, 46, who denies 21 charges of theft, convinced the Salvation Army to invest more than $7 million in a standby letter of credit to generate income. The Salvation Army received $200,000, but this was its own money, it was alleged. The case continues.

MY poised to expand

MY HOLDINGS, the labels and packaging company, will this year launch an overseas expansion drive by joining forces with a range of European companies. A £15 million acquisition strategy will follow. MY is in talks with companies in France, Spain and Italy. The group's pre-tax profits were £6.5 million (£5.49 million) in the six months to March 1. After an interim dividend of 0.8p (0.7p), due on June 11, earnings rose to 3.36p (2.76p). Shares rose 4½p to 121½p yesterday.

Intermediate higher

INTERMEDIATE CAPITAL, the provider of mezzanine financing typically used in management buyouts, increased pre-tax profits 6 per cent to £20.2 million last year. It made £109 million of new loans in the year ending January 31. Tom Bartlam, Intermediate's managing director, said 53 per cent of business is from companies in continental Europe and this is likely to increase to 60 per cent. A final dividend of 10.6p is proposed for May 23, taking the total to 15.4p (13.4p).

Trafficmaster loss grows

TRAFFICMASTER, the traffic monitoring group, had a loss of £3.4 million in the year to December, a deterioration from the £2.5 million loss in the previous year. It is predicting a profit for the current year. Losses per share accelerated from 11.3p to 14.0p and the shares fell from 332p to 323p. The group, however, has £15.6 million of cash which it says is sufficient to complete its present plans, particularly its network expansion.

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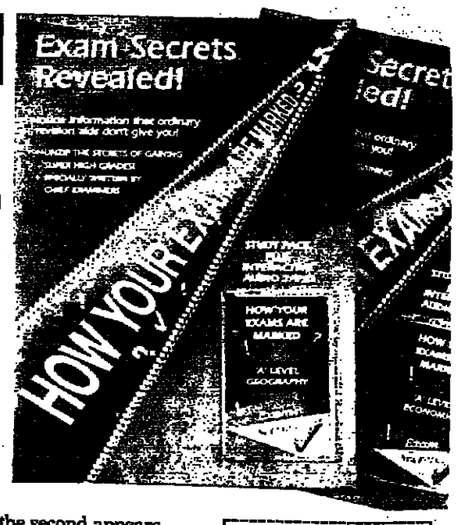
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CHANGING TIMES

☐ Winners and losers in railways lottery ☐ Cowie career crash prompts questions ☐ Football becoming a sector of two halves

Collision course

☐ SOME trains go faster than others — this is simply a matter of physics. Some trains do not run at all, and some have a regrettable tendency to come off the rails. Under the system used to sell off British Rail, the same must be true of the companies selected to run those trains.

This is to make no comment on the methodology behind yesterday's doom and gloom report from Save Our Railways, an organisation that seems to want the return of British Rail in all its nationalised glory, written in an unholy alliance with an accountant who advised on the privatisation. The report accepts that a number of variables could influence any coming cull of franchise operators, and that it is not at present possible to say whether the cost to the taxpayer will go up or down as a result of awarding the job to these operators. By implication, it is not possible either to decide which will flourish and which will fail.

There are two predictable responses to the hit list of profitable, or otherwise, franchise operators drawn up. One is *synthetic outrage at the profits* being made by the lucky ones — even if the real outrage should be reserved for those that take the money and fail to provide the proper service.

The other is concern at what happens when those failures arrive. There are no penalties on operators who walk off the job, and any profit will fall along with Government subsidies during the life of the franchise.

If this fall can be matched by higher revenues — more passengers attracted by a better service — or lower costs, all well and good. If not, there are no assets to walk away from — rolling stock, track, stations, all are leased, and the only properties are intellectual ones, the *right to run trains on this route* and that route on the attached terms. Should these properties cease to be valuable, well, thanks for all that cash in years one and two. We're off to the Bahamas now. The tough terms imposed on some of the most recently awarded franchises mean that some firms will be tempted.

What happens then? Larger operators, Stagecoach and National Express and their like, will take over routes run by smaller ones, because they are better placed to make a profit. Such consolidation is already seen as inevitable. But they will request subsidies rather higher than those initially granted. Either they will get them — in which case, higher cost to the Exchequer. Or they will not, and the state will step in to run the services — result, ditto, unless you believe a state-run railway can operate more efficiently than a private one. And we have just spent 50 years disproving that.

In the end there could be four or five big operators running most of the network. Just like before 1945, in fact — except with the Government, of whatever hue, committed to operate the unprofitable bits they do not want. A triumph for the cherry-pickers — and not quite what was meant by privatisation of the railways.

Resign, and we sack you

☐ THESE little spats over corporate governance can be so *revealing. Who would have* thought in February, when Cowie Group first tried to sack the man in charge of its car leasing side, that it would have taken so long, or done such harm to the share price?

Neil Pykett has finally resigned just three days before a special meeting of Cowie shareholders who would have been asked to sack him, and would certainly have done so. He was to be sacked because he had given notice of his resignation, which will certainly teach him not to do it again and is an interesting reflection of the way things are done at Cowie.



Mr Pykett leaves after 33 years at the company. Not a man too riven with self-doubt, he confidently expects to be back within another five, as chief executive. This was the job he wanted all along, and the realisation that it would never be his prompted that resignation.

His chances, at this stage, do not look good. Neither do the employment practices of his former employer. He was on a three-year rolling contract, but the rest of the Cowie board decided to limit any sum paid on his departure. This is all well and good; careers are blocked all the time, and it is not a proper use of shareholders' funds to compensate for such disappointments providing the original salary is still being paid. Except for that three-year roller, unacceptable in today's climate of corporate governance, which could have been used to reward a less outspoken director.

There is also a serious question mark over Gordon Hodgson, chief executive, now well into his sixty-sixth year and seemingly not inclined to budge. There have been other abrupt departures from the Cowie board in the past, not least the founder, Sir Tom Cowie, edged out by Mr Hodgson and now hectoring loudly from the sidelines.

Institutions have watched unhappily as the affair has sent the share price tumbling from almost 450p to below £4 at last night's close, and obscured a good set of results. Their attention having been attracted, they should be asking plenty of questions about just what goes on in the Cowie boardroom.

To the winners go the spoils

☐ MANCHESTER UNITED has struck a blow to be welcomed by anyone worried about declining standards on television. The club has rejected a proposal to have four hours a night dedicated to it on a cable TV channel. "We thought it would be too intrusive," says Martin Edwards, the club's low-key chief executive.

Intrusive or not, TV dominates the burgeoning football sector. Put simply, any other way of bringing in revenue costs money. To gain larger crowds requires a bigger stadium — expanding Old Trafford to a capacity of 55,000 will have cost United £92.7 million by the time it is finished — and to sell merchandise and replica shirts requires someone to make them. But when clubs sell the TV rights to matches, they just sit back and count the cash.

That is why pay-per-view TV is so attractive and why the present way of dividing TV revenues cannot hold. Currently half the income from the deal with BSkyB (40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*) is divided equally between the clubs, another quarter depends on where you end up in the table and the remainder on how often you appear. Edwards says this favours the smaller clubs to the detriment of United.

When it comes to negotiating a deal for pay-per-view, United and its big friends, such as Liverpool, Arsenal and Newcastle United, will want a bigger slice of the cake. This will lead to the break-up of the collective negotiating structure — even without the intervention of its biggest critic, the Director General of Fair Trading.

Political spin

☐ REASSURANCE about Labour's "relatively modest" reform plans for the utilities came in a recent note from Philip Hollobone, analyst at Williams de Broë: "Strong balance sheets and large potential cost savings should help cushion any blow." Voters in Lewisham East should ask for more pre-election investment advice when Mr Hollobone appears on their doorsteps. He is their Conservative candidate.

Sterling hits Burmah's performance

BY CARL MORTISHED

PRICE cutting by competitors and the strength of the pound are keeping profits growth in check at Burmah Castrol, the lubricants company that makes Castrol GTX motor oil. The cost of the dearer pound is expected to continue this year and Burmah is cutting overheads, closing a US blending plant at a cost of $10 million.

The strength of sterling against the dollar and the mark held back earnings growth by 3 percentage points last year, said Jonathan Fry, chief executive. Pre-tax profit grew 3 per cent to £261 million in 1996 but, translating 1995 profits at current exchange rates, growth would have been 6 per cent. Mr Fry gave warning that the pain would get worse if rates remain unchanged: "We have to earn 9 per cent more country by country to stay level because of the strong pound."

However, Burmah is raising the payout for the year 10 per cent to 36.8p with a final dividend of 24.8p (11.2p) paid out of foreign earnings. Because of special factors, Burmah is able to enhance the foreign income dividend by 6.2p, raising the total payout to 43p, up 19 per cent.

Burmah's lubricant earnings rose 6 per cent to £210 million at constant currencies, mainly because of the continuing strength of Asian markets. Overall, Burmah's volumes rose only 3 per cent and lubricant profits fell in Europe and North America.

Mr Fry cited the BP/Mobil merger as having a depressing effect on prices in Europe. "They have been pursuing market share very aggressively," he said. In an effort to cut costs in the competitive US market, Burmah is to close a lubricants blending plant in New Jersey and source the product from a third party.

Tempus, page 28

Nat Power and RJB join forces

BY OLIVER AUGUST

RJB MINING, England's main coal producer, has teamed up with National Power, the electricity generator, to pioneer a "clean coal" power station.

Together with Texaco, the US oil group, the two companies will spend several million pounds to study the feasibility of building the 400 megawatt station adjacent to RJB's Kellingley colliery in Yorkshire.

Using clean coal is environmentally friendlier but considerably more expensive than using ordinary coal or gas in electricity generation.

Richard Budge, the RJB chief executive, said Britain's national security partly depended on the development of a clean coal capability, possibly the only acceptable form of domestic fuel production in 20 years. The cost of building the plant is expected to be £300 million.

Keith Henry, National Power's chief executive, said: "As the country's largest coal user, we are anxious to investigate all options to secure the future for coal."

Tempus, page 28

Airtours stake sold for £31m

BY GEORGE SIVELL

TOM TRICKETT, the co-founder of Airtours with David Crossland, the chairman, yesterday sold 3.4 million shares in the travel company at 925p each, raising £31.45 million.

Mr Trickett, brother-in-law of Mr Crossland, retired from the company in 1994 although remained a non-executive director until last year.

He is said by advisers to be selling the shares for tax *planning reasons. Mr Trickett* had an arrangement with Mr Crossland to vote his shares with the chairman and not to sell the shares without consent. The agreement with Mr Crossland was ended before yesterday's disposal. The Airtours share price remained unchanged, at 940½p.

☐ Hambro Countrywide revealed that Harry Hill, its managing director, *had made* an instant profit of £850,000 from share options. Mr Hill exercised options on 1 million shares at 40p each last week and sold 1 million shares in the market at 125p each. Shares in Hambro Countrywide remained unchanged, at 124½p yesterday. Mr Hill's stake stays at 0.043 per cent.

Study finds no sign of housing boom

THE housing market is not on the verge of a 1980s-style boom and is unlikely to fuel inflation, according to a report out today (Alasdair Murray writes).

Simon Briscoe, UK economist with Nikko Europe, argues that although the housing market saw a "boomlet" in 1996, house price inflation remains modest by historical standards, and structural changes will help to restrain it.

The recovery in house prices remains patchy, with prices rising last year by an average of 8 per cent — barely a third of the rise seen in 1988. In real terms, house values remain 30 per cent below peak levels. Transactions are at about 60 per cent of late-1980s levels.

Mr Briscoe says changes in the labour market have made consumers feel more insecure, and made it harder to get a loan. He expects low inflation to hold the market back, with people unable to rely on inflation to help them over bad buys.



STOCK MARKET — CLARE STEWART



Wall Street helps London to regain its confidence

THE stock market shrugged off pre-election uncertainties and took its cue from America to notch up a confident start to the week.

As sterling strengthened against the mark to climb through its old ERM floor, the FT-SE 100 held on to gains to end the day 35.1 points ahead at 4,271.7. However, several large stocks, such as Unilever and Pearson, went ex-dividend, trimming the index rise by several points.

Dealers reported busy trade in British Steel, BT and National Grid, with modest volumes overall at 683 million.

The market had drugs on its mind for much of the day. **SmithKline Beecham** led the FT-SE 100 with a rise of 35½p to 893p, helped by the strength of the dollar and Wall Street's rise, while **Zeneca** jumped 22½p to £17.62½ after the UK launch of Zomig, its new migraine drug.

Glaxo Wellcome may be tempted to reach for the Zomig after losing its appeal in the US against alleged infringement of Zantac, its patent for ulcer treatment. The shares eased 4p to £10.86 after the decision, which clears the way for Novopharm to sell its own form of the treatment. Shares in **Holliday Chemical**, a supplier to Novopharm, jumped 13p to 152p.

Among the second-liners, **Chiroscience** added 7p to 371p after announcing a research alliance with Alcon Laboratories.

Tepnel Life Sciences enjoyed its moment in the biotech spotlight as its shares leapt 49p to a new high of 125p, making it also the market's highest mover. Weekend comment sparked interest in the group. Tepnel is developing two DNA diagnostic systems, but the group yesterday played down suggestions that an announcement was imminent. Kit Madden, chairman, said the group was hitting the targets outlined at the time of the rights issue last year. Losses of £2.5 million are forecast for the year to June.

Others in the sector failed to share the glory as **Drew Scientific** reversed recent gains with a fall of 47½p to 150p after cautious brokers' comment, while **Shield Diagnostics** dropped 20p to 652½p.

Analysts warmed to results from **Burmah Castrol**, the oil and chemical fuels group where Jonathan Fry is chief executive. It reported a 10 per cent increase in underlying net income. The shares jumped 16½p to £10.14, helped by a number of buy recommendations and despite Burmah's caution on the impact of a strong pound.

ICI was boosted 14p to 714½p by a strong dollar and reports of a £1 billion offer for Unilever's speciality chemicals division, while **Hanson** added 6½p to 280½p on talk of plans to sell its electrical subsidiary.

BG was again in demand, with nearly 17 million shares changing hands. The shares moved up 5p to 178½p.

News of **National Power** joining forces with **RJB Mining** and Texaco to assess the feasibility of constructing the UK's first large-scale clean coal power station fuelled a 10 per cent jump in RJB shares, up 35½p to 390½p.

British Borneo, the oil exploration group, found less to cheer about as its shares lost further ground, plunging 89p to £13.02½. The fall comes after a disappointing drilling report last week capped an earlier run and prompted bearish comment.



Good news from Jonathan Fry, left, and Brian Hardy, finance director, of Burmah Castrol, put 16½p on the shares

Watch out for United Overseas Group, which makes its debut today. A premium of 10p-20p is expected on the 50p placing price for the group, which specialises in buying up excess stock from leading consumer goods manufacturers. The placing will raise £17.3 million, valuing the group at £60 million.

Shares in **Prism Railways** were knocked off course after the publication of a report warning that five of the new private rail operators are on track for financial difficulties. AIM-quoted Prism, which operates four franchises, saw its shares drop sharply before recovering to close 10p lower at 345p, while angrily refuting the report's claims. The Go-Ahead Group, which operates Thames Trains and the Thameslink franchises, saw its shares slide 14p lower to 488½p. **National Express**, which operates the North London route, dipped 3½p to 551½p. **Stagecoach** dropped 2½p to 646p.

A record half-time result at **Manchester United**, with profits up 27 per cent to £19.5 million, added just a penny to its share price at 642p. **Sheffield United** retreated 6p to 63p. It announced the £2 million sale of four sportswear divisions, including the UK licence for the Le Coq Sportif brand.

London Clubs, the casino operator, dropped back 7p to 401½p after the surprise referral of its bid for **Capital Corp** to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Its bid has now lapsed and Capital Corp ended 14p lower at 186p.

Trafficmaster saw its shares drop 9p to 323½p after posting increased losses of £3.41 million with no dividend.

A profits warning from **Universal Salvage** prompted a sharp fall in its share price, down 67½p to 135p, a drop of 33 per cent. A snappier result from **Moss Bross**, with a 41 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £16 million, helped to lift shares 15p to £13.97½.

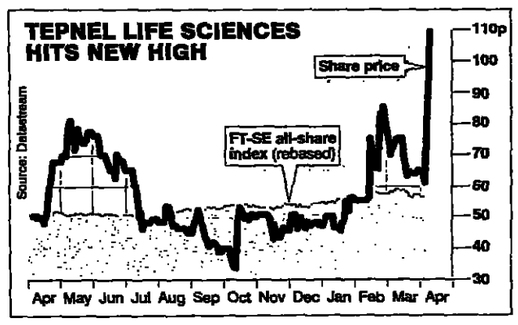
Housebuilders were gloomy after a downbeat report on the state of the housing market from Nikko Europe, the brokers. **Barratt Developments** ended 5p lower at 257½p.

Flying Flowers dipped 2½p to 270p after two directors each sold a small number of shares, while renewed bid talk helped **Pizza Express** to head back towards £7 with a 28½p rise to 695p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: The London market moved up in line with its European counterparts in early trading, but slipped back as dealers were tempted to take profits, switching into overseas bonds.

The June series of the long gilt moved up £12/32 at £109 1/32 with volumes described as an average Monday at 50,000. Treasury 8 per cent 2000 edged up £3/32 at £102 11/32 while Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was up £14/32, also at £102 11/32.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Shares and bonds were higher in what analysts said was primarily a technical rally. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 50.99 points ahead at 6,577.06.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 6577.06 (+50.99)
S&P Composite 763.37 (+5.47)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 17715.67 (-144.92)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 12287.84 (+83.25)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 727.59 (+19.18)

Sydney:
AO 2373.2 (+3.7)

Frankfurt:
DAX 3312.88 (+67.95)

Singapore:
Straits 2088.14 (+12.36)

Brussels:
General 11825.87 (+179.17)

Paris:
CAC-40 2572.31 (+54.34)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 952.70 (+18.80)

London:

FT 30	2838.8 (+21.4)
FTSE 100	4271.7 (+35.1)
FTSE 250	4518.4 (+3.6)
FTSE 350	2106.4 (+14.0)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2136.34 (+36.15)
FTSE All-Share	2077.88 (+12.91)
FTSE Non Financials	2139.72 (+8.95)
FTSE Fixed Interest	116.30 (+0.04)
FTSE Govt Secs	93.65 (+0.24)
Bargains	54981
SEAQ Volume	680.5m
US$	1.6297 (-0.0105)
German Mark	2.2829 (+0.0389)
Exchange Index	99.4 (+0.8)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
ECU	1.4145
£/SDR	1.1823
RPI	155.0 Feb (2.7%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	154.5 Feb (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Aurora Inv Trust	100	...
Avalon Oil	98½	- 3
Avis Europe	128	+ 1
Bickerton	41½	- ½
Cambridge Anti	575	- 7
Charlton Athletic	60½	...
Close Bros Prot VCT	95	...
Diagonal	298½	+ 3½
Donatantonio	72	+ ½
Harvey Nash	183½	+ 1
Heal's	209½	- 1
Helphire Group	117½	...
London Bridge Sftw	295½	- 2
M & G High Income	66½	- 1
M & G High Pckg	101	- ½
Newcastle Utd	139	+ 1½
Oxford Tech Venture	95	...
Pathfinder Properties	45	- 5
Prestbury Leisure	2½	...
Q Group	116½	...
Torch Hldgs	107½	...
Whitehead Mann	144½	...
World Telecom	181	+ 9½
Worldsec	177	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Biocure n/p (9)	20½	+ 5
Cliveden n/p (75)	5	- 2½
JKX Oil & Gas n/p (34)	7	...
Partco n/p (300)	9½	...
Saville Gordon n/p (55)	¼	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Acom Comp	240p (+25p)
Holliday Chem	152p (+13p)
Chemring	187½p (+10p)
Druck	235p (+12p)
Smithkline	893p (+35½p)
Flextech	615p (+17p)

FALLS:

Capital Corp	186p (-14p)
Innovative Tech	320p (-15p)
Shield Diag	652½p (-20p)
Capita Gp	655p (-20p)
Prism Rail	345p (-10p)
Go-Ahead	488½p (-14p)
Caird Gp	757½p (-15p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

Oil pressure builds up

STERLING is a bit of a red herring for Burmah Castrol investors. As if to prove that the strength of the underlying business was not affected, Burmah raised its base dividend a full 10 per cent, despite the stunted growth in underlying profits. Losses incurred from translating overseas profits into sterling accounts are an irritation for any international business and Burmah's lubricants operation is not about exports but local production and distribution. In many countries, a weak dollar and falling crude oil price is a help.

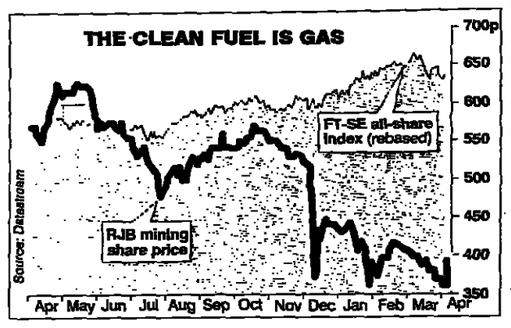
But there is a competition issue for Burmah and it lies in Europe and North America. In the latter market, enormous investment has been pumped into persuading US consumers to buy synthetic motor oils at three or four times the price of conventional products. But consumers have stayed away in droves and competition has intensified in a market that is not growing. Better cars are using less oil and without the incentive from new (and more expensive) products, Burmah and its rivals will be hard pushed to prise more dollars from motorists. Meanwhile, in Europe, price erosion is a problem with the combined BP and Mobil passing on some of the merger savings to consumers, gaining market share.

It is an article of faith for Burmah that lubricants, unlike petrol, are not a commodity and can sustain premium prices. Indeed, Burmah's brand has taken India by storm, amassing a 20 per cent share in the space of a few years. But, the challenge is greater in a nil-growth market and while big lubricant brands have some value in the developed world, the pressure to use price to gain market share could become irresistible.

RJB Mining

BRITAIN'S biggest generator is making a commitment to the long-term future of coal in its tie-up with RJB and Texaco for the development of a clean-coal power station. But behind the scenes a more important battle is being waged over the near term future of UK coal.

The generators and RJB are locked in crucial talks over long-term contracts for dirty coal due to expire next year. They replace agreements entered into by the Government when it sold off British Coal and they will be the first deals to be negotiated by a privatised electricity industry intent on extracting a tough deal from RJB, the biggest coal producer in Britain. Set against RJB is the cheap price of gas, a clean source of energy that has become the fuel of choice for electricity generation. It is those contracts which will shape the future of coal in the UK. The generators are free to buy from whomever they choose and while they will maintain a commitment to UK coal, they will use the threat of cheap coal imports to force RJB's hand. The generators will remain big coal consumers despite the dash for gas and the proximity of power stations to Britain's coalfields would make it folly to use too much imported coal. Nevertheless the production cost of South African, Australian and Far Eastern coal is far less than that produced in by RJB and the latter will need more than a clean coal project to secure itself a healthy future.



Capital Corp

IAN LANG, President of the Board of Trade, has developed a deft movement that helps him to reduce his workload and increase his operational efficiency as a Minister. Whenever a competition issue arrives on his in-tray, a quick flick of the wrist sends it to the out-tray, after which it leaves the office or remains in limbo until the arrival of his replacement after May 1.

Gas, ferries and now posh casinos. A loss of competition in the latter market is unlikely to arouse the ire of a consumer watchdog. Those interested in the service provided by London Clubs and Capital Corporation tend to be very shy and very rich, and often live abroad for nine months of the year. The last time that such issues were aired was in the early 1980s, when Pleasurama attempted to take over Triton TV and the concern was over similar market shares with a potential dominant owner of more than 60 per cent of the London casino market.

Why should anyone care? In theory, there are three concerns. A player refused credit at one casino owned by the dominant operator, for whatever reason, would have few places left at which to lose his money. Likewise, if the Gaming Board chose to punish such a large operator for a misdemeanour, the result could be closure of two thirds of London's casinos.

These worries are rendered nugatory by the knowledge that casinos share information about banned players and the Gaming Board has other means to punish casino operators than mass closure. The real concern is that of rival operators. They claim that in a more deregulated casino market, London Clubs will have too much clout to promote its establishments to known high rollers. That may worry Ladbroke, but it would be rather convenient if the outcome were that the MMC forced London Clubs to sell one of its casinos.

Moss Bros

IF CHAPS in new suits is an economic indicator, we are in a boom, at least according to sales figures from Moss Bros. Suit sales are on the increase, and Moss Bros has the right formula, carefully positioning its product at the right price points for specific consumers, enabling it to take market share from other, less savvy, operators. The result is strong sales and margins, and cash flow that can finance a healthy store development programme as well as pay dividends, interest and tax.

Moss Bros now faces two challenges, improving margins in Blazer, the preppy menswear chain, and finding a suitable investment to gear its business. With earnings growing at this rate, it can well afford a more risky balance sheet.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

May	994-993	Jul	1043-1041
Jul	1008-1007	Sep	1055-1052
Sep	1017-1013	Dec	1068-1065
Dec	1014-1012	Mar	1086-1079
Mar	1025-1020		
May	1035-1031	Volume: 16943	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	1575 BID	Jan	1580-1595
Jul	1585 SLR	Mar	1570-1590
Sep	1600 SLR	May	1570-1590
Nov	1600-1595	Volume: 3502	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	302.1-01.3
Spot: 310.3		Mar	302.0-00.5
May	310.0-09.8	May	302.0 SLR
Aug	307.0-6.9	Aug	unq
Oct	304.0-03.2	Volume: 2586	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 4

	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
(p/kg lw)			
GB:	87.4p	140.9p	96.0p
(+/-)	+21.4p	+4.9p	+0.8p
Eng/Wales:	87.4p	147.2l	95.7p
(+/-)	+21.4p	-0.1?	+0.7p
(%)	unq		
Scotland:		140.2l	99.0?
(+/-)		-0.8?	+2.7p
(%)			

JCIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.10	-0.25
Brent 15 day (May)	18.05	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Jun)	18.25	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (May)	19.50	-0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	19.50	-0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	196 (-8)	198 (-8)
Gasoil EEC	164 (n/c)	166 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	83 (n/c)	84 (n/c)
Naphtha	181 (-3)	185 (-8)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Apr	162.00-62.25	Jul	160.75-67.25
May	163.25-63.50	Aug	166.75-69.00
Jun	165.00-65.25	Vol: 17027	

BRENT (6.00pm)

May	18.03-18.08	Aug	19.46 BID
Jun	18.23-18.28	Sep	18.52 SLR
Jul	18.35-18.39	Vol: 29090	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	96.25	May	91.00
Jul	93.00	Sep	92.50
Sep	95.75	Nov	94.50
Nov	97.75	Jan	96.50
Jan	99.75	Mar	98.50
	Volume: 722		Volume: 30

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
May	---	39.5
Jun	unq	62.5
Nov	---	71.0
	Volume: 151	

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

May	76.00-76.50

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $80/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 97	1495	1495	1495
May 97	1495	1493	1495
Jun 97	1365	1355	1365
Jul 97	1245	1245	1260
Vol: 428 lots		Open interest: 2675	
		Index 1495.8	

(Official) (Volume prev day)

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash:	3mth:	Vol:
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2320.0-2325.0	2275.0-2276.0	124122S
Lead ($/tonne)	638.00-640.00	630.00-639.50	176575
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1213.0-1213.5	1234.0-1239.5	132975
Tin ($/tonne)	5625.0-5630.0	5680.0-5675.0	13755
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1540.0-1542.5	1584.5-1585.0	1750200
Nickel ($/tonne)	7140.0-7200.0	7300.0-7305.0	105576

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Jun 97	108-30	109-04	108-15	109-01	51054
Previous open interest: 175802	Sep 97				108-26	0
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Jun 97	99.48	100.34	99.48	100.28	205323
Previous open interest: 2b1653	Sep 97	98.68	99.26	98.63	99.26	890
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Jun 97	126.00	127.70	126.00	127.50	71494
Previous open interest: 110321	Sep 97	126.75	126.75	126.65	127.50	225
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Jun 97	127.30	127.30	127.14	127.14	1280
	Sep 97	125.89	125.89	125.88	125.85	48
Three Mth Sterling	Jun 97	93.30	93.31	93.25	93.30	218241
	Sep 97	93.01	93.01	92.91	92.98	17880
Previous open interest: 448676	Dec 97	92.77	92.77	92.67	92.76	29259
Three Mth Euromark	Jun 97	96.77	96.77	96.75	96.76	31133
Previous open interest: 1258953	Sep 97	96.69	96.71	96.68	96.69	26098
Three Mth Eurolira	Jun 97	93.00	93.16	93.00	93.15	31701
Previous open interest: 257290	Sep 97	93.35	93.51	93.35	93.49	26756
Three Mth Euroyen	Sep 97				99.31	0
	Dec 97				99.16	0
Three Mth Euroswiss	Jun 97	98.17	98.17	98.14	98.15	5104
Previous open interest: 89330	Sep 97	98.14	98.14	98.11	98.12	2143
Three Mth ECU	Jun 97	95.82	95.87	95.82	95.87	1564
Previous open interest: 30368	Sep 97	95.74	95.79	95.73	95.79	350
FTSE 100	Jun 97	4274.0	4306.0	4267.0	4295.0	9793
Previous open interest: 65262	Sep 97	4309.0	4309.0	4309.0	4319.0	10

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6½

Discount Market Loans O/night high: 6⅛ Low 5⅝ Week fixed: 6⅛

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅛; 3 mth 5¹⁵/₁₆. Sell: 2 mth 6⅛; 3 mth: 5¹⁵/₁₆.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Disk	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	7¼-7
Interbank:	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	7¼-7
Overnight: open 6¼, close 5¾.					
Local Authority Deps:	6¼	n/a	6¼	6¼	6¼
Sterling CDs:	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	7¼-7
Dollar CDs:	5.56	n/a	5.71	5.93	6.25
Building Society CDs:	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	7¼-7

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅝-5¼	5⅝-5¼	5⅝-5¼	5⅝-5¼	5¼-4½
Deutschemark:	3¼-2¾	3¼-3	3¼-3⅛	3¼-3⅛	3¼-2¼
French Franc:	3¼-3⅛	3¼-3⅛	3¼-3⅛	3¼-3⅛	3¼-2¼
Swiss Franc:	1¼-1⅛	1¼-1⅛	1¼-1⅛	1¼-1⅛	1¼-par
Yen:	¼-⅛	¼-⅛	¼-⅛	¼-⅛	¼-par

GOLD PRICES (Mocatta & Co)

Bullion: Open $347.70-348.00 Close: $349.05-349.55 High: $349.45-349.95
Low: $346.05-346.55 AM: $347.85 PM: $349.00

Krugerrand: $348.00-351.00 (£213.75-215.75)

Platinum: $364.00 (£224.00) Silver: $4.81 (£2.955) Palladium: $150.50 (£92.60)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for April 7	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.1043-3.1372	3.1344-3.1372	¼-¼pr	2¼-2½pr
Brussels	56.910-57.546	57.478-57.546	17-12pr	46-39pr
Copenhagen	10.507-10.625	10.614-10.625	¼-¼pr	¼-¼pr
Dublin	1.0414-1.0504	1.0484-1.0504	7-3pr	21-15pr
Frankfurt	2.7589-2.7899	2.7869-2.7899	¼-¼pr	2¼-2¼pr
Lisbon	276.88-280.00	279.68-280.00	¼-⅛ds	¼-⅛ds
Madrid	232.95-235.51	235.32-235.51	13-9pr	50-31pr
Milan	2725.b-2744.4	2741.5-2744.4	15-31ds	39-61ds
Montreal	2.2622-2.2715	2.2631-2.2653	0.55-0.49pr	1.11-1.03pr
New York	1.6264-1.6304	1.6292-1.6302	0.725-0.525pr	0.253-0.222pr
Oslo	11.187-11.357	11.342-11.357	¼-¼pr	¼-¼pr
Paris	9.2840-9.3862	9.3785-9.3862	2¼-2¼pr	7¼-6¾pr
Stockholm	12.455-12.589	12.569-12.589	¼-¼pr	¼-¼pr
Tokyo	203.08-205.07	204.80-205.07	¼-¼pr	3-3pr
Vienna	19.416-19.637	19.613-19.637	¼-¼pr	1¾-1¼pr
Zurich	2.3675-2.3939	2.3909-2.3939	¼-¼pr	2¼-2½pr

Source: Extel — Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2873-1.2881
Austria	12.01-12.02
Belgium (Com)	35.23-35.24
Canada	1.3900-1.3905
Denmark	6.5115-6.5145
France	5.7510-5.7530
Germany	1.7091-1.7096
Hong Kong	7.7470-7.7480
Ireland	1.5530-1.5550
Italy	1681.4-1682.0
Japan	125.74-125.79
Malaysia	2.4993-2.5003
Netherlands	1.9225-1.9230
Norway	6.9603-6.9675
Portugal	171.50-171.60
Singapore	1.4405-1.4415
Spain	141.33-141.43
Sweden	7.7073-7.7148
Switzerland	1.4668-1.4678

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso	1.6264-1.6287
Australia dollar	2.0043-2.0069
Bahrain dinar	0.6075-0.6195
Brazil real	1.7198-1.7242
China yuan	13.34-13.64
Cyprus pound	0.8155-0.8255
Finland markka	8.1875-8.3035
Greece drachma	433.0-440.0
Hong Kong dollar	12.6082-12.6178
India rupee	57.44-58.40
Indonesia rupiah	3886.0-3954.0
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4899-0.4990
Malaysia ringgit	4.0688-4.0724
New Zealand dollar	2.3584-2.3615
Pakistan rupee	64.80 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8625-5.9865
Singapore dollar	2.3443-2.3468
S Africa rand (com)	7.1337-7.235
U A E dirham	5.9115-6.039

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

31	295	Land Secs	673
ASDA Gp	2,900	Legal & Gn	1,800
Abbey Nti	3,700	Lloyds TSB	6,100
Allied Dom	1,200	LucasVarity	7,900
AB Foods	840	Marks Spr	3,100
BAA	593	Mercury Asset	400
BAT Inds	7,100	NatWst Bk	3,800
BG	16,500	Nat Grid	22,400
BOC	1,000	Nat Power	2,300
BP	6,100	Next	681
BSkyB	3,500	Orange	1,900
BTR	10,300	P & O	1,100
BT	17,900	Pearson	3,000
Bk of Scot	4,000	PowerGen	2,300
Barclays	3,400	Prudential	2,000
Bass	1,100	RMC	275
Blue Circle	345	RTZ	2,000
Boots	1,100	Railtrack	951
BAe	1,700	Rank Group	3,100
BA	2,900	Reckitt Col	2,800
British Land	557	Reed Intl	579
Brit Steel	52,300	Rentokil Ini	2,200
Burmah Cstl	1,300	Reuters	2,500
Burton	3,000	Rolls Royce	6,100
Cable Wire	4,400	Royal & Sun	1,200
Cadbury	3,200	Royal Bk Sct	2,300
Carlton Cms	2,200	Safeway	1,200
Centrica	10,700	Sainsbury	1,600
Cm Union	1,100	Schroders	107
Dixons	1,600	Scot & New	852
EMI	200	Scot Power	4,600
Energy Gp	1,600	Svrn Trent	1,400
Enterpr Oil	1,700	Shell Trans	3,900
GKN	123	Slebe	1,100
GRE	1,500	SmKl Bch	2,500
GUS	1,400	Smith Nph	2,600
Gen Acc	617	Smiths Inds	1,900
Gen Elec	2,000	Std Chartd	1,000
Glaxo Well	5,100	TI Gp	592
Grtnada	1,500	Tate & Lyle	776
Grand Met	2,600	Tesco	4,500
Guinness	3,000	Thames W	766
HSBC	1,900	Tomkins	2,600
Hanson	1,500	Unilever	1,900
Hays	1,000	Utd Utilities	1,000
ICI	1,900	Utd News	1,800
Imp Tob	443	Vodafone	5,000
Kingfisher	2,400	Whitbread	1,000
LASMO	7,000	Wolseley	358
Ladbroke	687	Zeneca	1,800

WALL STREET

	Apr 7 midday	Apr 4 close
AMP Inc	34⅛	34⅛
AMR Corp	85⅛	86⅛
ASA	33⅛	33⅞
AT & T	34⅛	34⅛
Abbott Labs	57⅝	57⅝
Advanced Micro	41⅛	39⅝
Aetna Life	86⅛	86⅛
Ahmanson (H F)	35⅞	35⅞
Air Prod & Chem	66⅛	66⅛
AirTouch Comm	24⅛	23⅝
Alberto-Culver B	26	26
Albertson's	33⅛	33⅛
Alcan Aluminm	32⅛	32⅛
Allied Signal	71⅛	71
Alum Co of Am	68⅛	67⅛
Amax Gold Inc	6⅝	6⅞
Amerada Hess	50⅛	50⅛
Ames Brands	49⅛	49⅛
Amer El Power	40⅛	40⅛
Amer Express	59⅝	59⅝
Amer Genl Corp	39⅛	40
Amer Home Pr	60⅛	59⅛
Amer Intl	116	115⅝
Amer Stores	43⅛	44⅛
Amer Standard	44⅛	45⅛
Ameritech	59⅝	60⅛
Amoco	84⅛	84⅛
Anheuser-Busch	42⅛	42⅛
Apple Computer	19⅛	19⅛
Archer Daniels	17⅛	17⅛
Armco	4	4
Armstrong Wrld	84	83⅞
Asarco	27⅛	27⅛
Atl Richfield	129⅛	128⅛
Auto Data Prc	43⅛	43⅛
Avery Dennison	38⅝	38⅛
Avon Products	52⅛	52⅛
Baker Hughes	35⅞	35⅞
Baltim Gas & El	26⅛	26⅛
Banc One	41⅛	40⅞
BankAmerica	104⅛	102⅞
Bank of NY	56	56
Bankers Tr NY	80⅞	82⅛
Barnett Banks	65⅛	65⅛
Bausch & Lomb	37⅛	37⅛
Baxter Intl	45⅝	44⅛
Bear Stearns	45⅛	45⅞
Bell Atlantic	68⅛	69⅛
Bell Industries	17⅛	17⅛
BellSouth	41⅛	41
Black & Decker	39⅛	39⅝
Block (H&R)	31⅛	31
Boeing	101⅛	98
Boise Cascade	28⅝	28⅝
Bristol Myrs Sq	64⅛	64⅛
Browning Ferris	28⅛	28⅛
Brunswick	26⅛	26⅞
Burlington Nthn	73⅝	73⅛
CMS Energy Corp	32	31⅞
CNA Financial	103⅛	102⅝
CPC Intl	81	80
CSX	46⅝	46⅞
Campbell Soup	47⅝	47⅛
Can Pacific	23⅞	23⅞
Carolina Pwr	36⅛	36⅛
Caterpillar	78⅞	78⅛
Central & SW	20⅞	20⅞
Champion Intl	43⅞	43⅛
Chase Manhat	91⅛	91⅛
Chevron Corp	65⅛	65
Chrysler	39⅜	39
Chubb Corp	53⅛	53⅛
Cigna Corp	146⅛	146⅛
Citicorp	111⅛	111⅛
Clorox	114⅜	114
Coastal Corp	45⅛	45⅛
Coca Cola	57	57⅛
Coca Cola Ent	58	57⅛
Colgate-Palm	103⅛	103⅝
Columbia Gas	58⅛	58⅜
ColumbiaHCA	34⅜	33⅞
Compaq Comp	77⅞	76⅛
Comp Ass Int	48⅛	44
Comsat	33⅛	33⅛
Conagra	113	113
Cons Edison	29	29
Cons Nat Gas	40	40
Cooper Inds	42⅞	42⅛
Corestates	49⅛	49⅛
Corning Inc	43⅞	43⅞
Crown Cork	54⅛	51⅛
Dana Corp	31⅛	31⅛
Dayton Hudson	43⅞	43⅛
Deere	44⅛	44⅛
Delta Air Lines	90⅛	89⅛
Deluxe Corp	32	32
Digital Equip	27	26⅛
Disney (Walt)	73⅛	73⅝
Dominion Res	39⅞	39⅛
Donelley (RR)	33⅛	33⅛
Dover Corp	53⅛	53⅛
Dow Chemical	79⅛	79⅛
Dow Jones	41⅛	41⅛
Dresser	29⅜	29⅛
Duke Power	44	43⅞
Dun & Bradstreet	24⅛	24⅛
Du Pont	103⅛	104⅛
Eastman Chem	52⅛	53
Eastman Kodak	76⅛	75⅝
Eaton Corp	69⅛	69

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Joint venture for dynasties

CONGRATULATIONS to Andrew Buxton, chairman of Barclays Bank, on the engagement of his youngest daughter.

Two banking dynasties are to unite with the forthcoming marriage of Veronica Buxton, 27, and Michael Barlow, 30, the third son of millionaire merchant banker Sir John Barlow, and his wife, Susan, of Bulkeley Grange in Malpas, Cheshire.

Sir John, chairman of the family firm Thomas Barlow & Bros and a former high sheriff of Cheshire, is a familiar figure on the county hunting circuit. The motto on the Barlow coat of arms? *Qui non proficit deficit.*

Kenyon transfer

NICE to see Peter Kenyon has finally made it to the board of a Premiership club. Currently living in the US, the chairman of football strip-makers Umbro International was originally in the frame as a non-executive director of Sunderland, but he bowed out prior to the flotation of the Tyne and Wear club. Now Kenyon is abandoning Umbro to become a director of its biggest client, Manchester United. His brief? To develop Manchester United the brand.

On the board

DENISE KINGSMILL, the incoming deputy chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, has been appointed to the board of the Norwich and Peterborough Building Society. A graduate trainee at ICI and a former marketing executive for the International Wool Secretariat, she combined her role as a mother with qualifying as a solicitor. She is a consultant for Denton Hall, and is, not surprisingly, committed to mutuality.



Kingsmill: committed to concept of mutuality

COMET is cashing in on building society windfalls. According to a survey commissioned by the electrical retailer, more than a third of those aged under 24 who hold a building society account qualifying for a payout plan to spend their windfall on electrical products. This compares with 10 per cent in the 45 to 65-year-old bracket and 18 per cent of those aged 22 to 44.

Crest of a wave

LICHFIELD GIN is to make its debut at next week's Hanover Industry Fair. Produced by William Grant & Son, to an original recipe, its green and gold label features the Earl of Lichfield's crest. Another batch will be on its way to Hong Kong later this month, on the last voyage of the *Royal Yacht Britannia* to promote British exports throughout Asia and the Far East.

THE more expensive the company car, the less likely a woman will be allowed to drive it, according to research from Cowie, the motor retailers and company car management specialists. Cars valued at £45,000 or more were driven almost exclusively by men. Meanwhile cars valued at £9,000 or less were driven almost solely by women.

MORAG PRESTON



Lord Paul was among an audience of business leaders listening to Tony Blair in the City yesterday. Labour launches its business manifesto on Friday

Blair prepares executives to do business with Labour

Philip Bassett believes that the party and industry have reached an accommodation

Tony Blair's foray into the City yesterday prompted a raging pre-election row over privatisation. Though making explicit a shift on public ownership is significant, the thrust of the Labour leader's remarks, and of the business manifesto Labour is to launch this week, embodies a fundamental realignment between Labour and business.

Leading Conservatives leapt on Mr Blair's remarks about public ownership as ammunition for charges of a fresh new Labour swerving. Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, accused Mr Blair of a "preposterous and humiliating U-turn", while Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, attacked Labour as "unprincipled scoundrels", insisting that "you cannot put people who are making it up as they go along in charge of the national economy".

But Labour leadership sources emphasised that his statement was a specific expression of the key shift in Labour's thinking which Mr Blair's rewriting of Clause 4 of its constitution embodied, balancing a commitment to social justice with a commitment to a strong enterprise economy.

Labour's pragmatic stance on privatisation — as Mr Blair put it yesterday, "what matters is what works" — will be red electoral meat in the daily scrapping before polling day. But behind the political prizefighting, business will be interested in the detail of what Mr Blair said yesterday — and what Labour's business manifesto will say when it is launched on Friday.

Business leaders listening directly to Mr Blair at the Corn Exchange in the City broadly welcomed what he said. Danny Bernstein, managing director of Monarch Airlines, said: "It was a very positive message, a very strong message and a very consistent message." John Jackson, chairman of Ladbrokes, agreed about its positive impact, and said: "Hopefully business is being taken out of politics." Christopher Mackenzie, president of financial services company G E Capital Europe, welcomed in particular what the Labour leader said on Europe: "He was saying Britain should not stand on the sidelines throwing tomatoes but have a constructive relationship with Europe."

Business leaders more broadly will concentrate closely on Labour's new business manifesto — perhaps noting that Labour is the only party that is launching a pre-election statement aimed specifically at business, traditionally seen as a bastion of support for the Conservatives.

The document draws together and clarifies two policy documents on business that Labour issued last autumn within a few days of each other. One, *New opportunities for business*, complete with a Tony Blair forward and cover picture, set out in glossy terms the Labour leadership's view of its changed relationship with business. The other, *Vision for growth: a new industrial strategy for Britain*, complete with a forward from Margaret Beckett, Labour's Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, was a dourer product (even after intervention by the leader's office), slipped out almost unnoticed on the day that Mr Blair arrived at the TUC's annual conference in Blackpool on a high-profile visit.



Tony Blair is realigning Labour

Business was confused by what it saw as two distinctly different messages, embodied in the style, approach and content of the two documents, and wanted to know what was the real Labour line.

Labour leadership sources lost little time in privately telling them, though since then Mrs Beckett has come in considerably from the cold, right into the new Labour front rank — and significantly it was Mrs Beckett who yesterday hit the airwaves to defend and explain Mr Blair's Corn Exchange speech, after having herself struck a similar note on privatisation some weeks ago in a BBC TV *On the Record* interview.

The privatisation row and the full election combat, together with the Conservatives' relative success in managing to drag the hoary issue of Labour's relations with the trade unions back on to the electoral agenda, mean that the launch of the business manifesto, to be called *Equipping Britain for the Future*, will now garner a degree of attention greater than it would have done before the election was called.

The document will contain key sections on macroeconomic stability; on rewards at work, including taxes and benefits and Labour's new deal for the long-term unemployed; on modern labour markets, including labour-market flexibility, education and skills; on small firms; on strong leadership in Europe; and on additional issues such as inward investment, export promotion and business and the environment.

In doing so, it will draw together most of what Labour wants to see in its relationship with business, such as the end of old Labour tax and spend; the importance of economic discipline, low inflation, low interest rates; a blend of job market change with minimum employment standards, focused on new investment in education and skills; attacking, as the CBI wanted, the "drag anchor" on business of long-term unemployment with new welfare-to-work proposals; and a more constructive role in Europe.

Business remains sceptical about how far a Labour government, if one were to be elected, would be able to enact such pledges. But while business still doesn't much want to see Labour in power, its judgment is that it is going to see that; and if it is, it wants to take part in it, to influence it, to steer a Labour government led by Mr Blair in a pro-business direction.

At present, business is wary. CBI leaders, for instance, felt bruised when their conversations with Labour leaders were recently presented as involvement in drafting this week's business manifesto — though they felt equally bruised by the Conservative backlash, the whole episode doing little more than stiffening their resolve to try to steer a politically neutral course.

But behind that wariness is a real interest in what Labour is proposing, though in many areas it stops well short of enthusiasm — business is not ever going to like the minimum wage or Labour's intention to sign the European social chapter, and certainly does not want to see any return to 1960s and 1970s-style tripartite corporatism, combining with the Government and the trade unions to run the economy, and not being startlingly successful at it.

Business leaders like what they have seen of Mr Blair, and at least some of his lieutenants. In a single week recently, for instance, CBI leaders met privately and separately with Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, and Stephen Byers, Labour's employee relations spokesman. Many accept that a Labour government would not damage the economy in the way that the Conservatives are warning, and some believe that Labour's more positive line on Europe in particular would genuinely help business — especially exporters — to compete in increasingly tough and increasingly global markets.

Such views enrage Conservative leaders, who believe that business is falling prey to the lure of new Labour, while forgetting the benefits won under the Conservatives.

Business will probably like most of what it sees from Labour on Friday, much as many leaders liked what they heard from Mr Blair yesterday — even if they doubt that the rest of his party has as yet fully taken to heart his views on privatisation, for instance. Despite Conservative criticisms, and despite business still not wanting Labour to win and having considerable reservations about what will happen if it does, business and Labour look to have reached an accommodation: Labour thinks that it can do business with business, and business thinks it can do business with Labour.



JANET BUSH

Tax claims are fooling no one

Britain's two main parties are so frightened of the question of tax, so committed to defensive vacuity on one hand and meaningless mud-slinging on the other that they have virtually neutralised each other on the issue. The Liberal Democrats are offering the electorate symbolic rises in the basic and higher rates of tax, safe in the knowledge that they will never implement them.

Nobody is talking any sense on tax; most voters know it and do not seem to care. The first MORI poll of the campaign for The Times showed that most people believe that a victorious Labour Party would raise income tax, despite its pledges to leave the main rates unchanged for the duration of the next Parliament. Yet Labour's opinion poll lead over the Conservatives was undiminished.

A survey last week by *Accountancy Age* magazine and Reed Accountancy Personnel found that more than half of the finance chiefs at UK companies felt that taxes ought to be raised after the election to pay for genuine improvements to the health service, education and law and order. Of the 37 per cent who opposed higher taxes, 80 per cent thought they would happen anyway. And, for the record, only 2 per cent of those questioned thought tax rises were more likely under Labour.

Barring another stunning fall from grace by one of our parliamentarians, tax will this week return to centre stage as the Institute for Fiscal Studies publishes its views on the outlook for taxes and spending and makes a judgement on the claims and counter claims of the campaign. It is not likely to make comfortable reading for either of the main election contenders.

The institute has been expressing trenchant views on Britain's fiscal position ever since the Budget last November. Although much of the worrying on the public finances in the Treasury has revolved around tax revenues since the great VAT black hole scare a while ago, revenues have since picked up along with the economy and are running close to official forecasts. The real problem facing the next government is public spending.

Andrew Dilnot, the IFS's director, was in blunt mood last month. The spending plans in the Red Book, to which Gordon Brown has committed himself for the first two years of a Labour government, "would have been regarded as too draconian by Margaret Thatcher" and could be described as "Ken Clarke's joke at Labour's expense".

Put plans for health spending in historical context and you see what he means. In the tax years from 1996-97 to 1999-2000, health spending is planned to rise 0.6 per cent and then 0.8 per cent. In years three and four, spending is planned to fall 0.8 per cent and then be flat. Cumulatively, this is growth of 0.7 per cent, compared with the 12.5 per cent which would, on average, have been expected in any four years you care to take in a long-run trend.

Under the successive Governments of Mrs Thatcher, for example, health spending averaged growth of 3 per cent a year. Total spending is planned to grow by 0.1, 0.3, 0.4 and 0.6 per cent in the same four years, a profile which Mr Dilnot describes as "apparently not from this planet".

None of the parties have faced up to the fiscal realities, and it is not just a question of the very tight spending plans over the next Parliament.

The truth is that Britain is more lightly taxed than virtually any other European economy, and if we British voters want better public services or even to maintain the standard of the ones we have, we will have to accept radical changes in how they are delivered — ie, finance many of them directly out of our own pockets — or pay higher taxes.

If there is to be radical change, the front-end costs will be huge. None of this will figure in the run-up to May 1 and, in a country in which low taxation has become an unquestioned plank of the centrist consensus, it is arguable whether it ever will be debated openly. The fact that the British public accepts this conspiracy of silence is testament to how often governments have lied about tax in the past.

No need to ask who owns what if regulation is on the right track

Tom Winsor says watchdogs should be given more bite if the public interest is to be served

Ownership of the assets of privatised utilities is irrelevant. The heart of the argument about their future lies in how they should be operated and to what ends, not about who owns the kit.

Without regulation, the owners of the assets can more or less do what they like. With regulation, brakes can be put on the owners, while the public interest in ensuring proper stewardship and the efficient and fair provision of essential services can be protected.

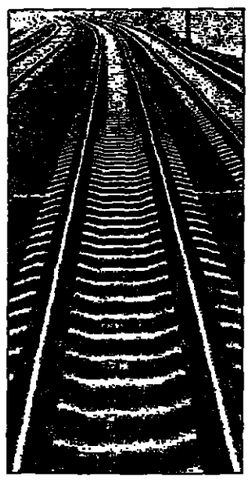
The welcome reality is that now, at last, that *is* what the debate is about. It will be a relief to shareholders and the privatised industries that never again will there be talk of renationalisation. But it might concern them rather more if a future government were to decide that the existing regulatory controls and institutions have not worked well enough, and that change is needed. They would want to know the consequences of such change.

Nationalisation was done to protect the public interest. The old remedy of the 1940s was to acquire full public ownership of the assets, so that the assets could be operated to achieve public interest rather than private sector objectives. But if the motive of public ownership is the protection of the public interest, it should have been realised — as it *has* been now — that the public interest in the proper and responsible operation of essential assets can be protected very effectively if there is in place a proper regulatory regime.

The regulators of the privatised industries have far more actual power over the industries they regulate than ministers ever had in the past. The regulators' instruments of control — price setting, efficiency, fair competition and so on — are far sharper and more focused than any tool that a Minister could use against the semi-autonomous board of a nationalised industry.

So, with a system of public interest regulation already in place and the ownership of important utilities now in private hands, the questions that face future governments are not how to reacquire ownership, but first, *what is* the public interest that needs protection and, second, whether the existing regulatory framework is working. The right regulatory changes, if any are needed, will be costless. If changes are needed and nothing is done, or the changes made are the wrong ones, they will cost dear because public interest will have been harmed.

The public interest is in efficiency and economy of public services, proper renewal investment, fair prices, beneficial competition and good quality: the right services at the right times and the right prices. So, do the current regulatory arrangements measure up? Whatever the objectives of a future government, it would be a mistake to make the regulators the puppets of Ministers. A regulator can take a long-term view of his industry, and it would be tragic if that were lost with a return to annualised and intrusive political control. But if the industry receives substantial amounts of public subsidy — railways, for example, receive £2 billion a year — the case for more accountability for the spending of that money is a good one. But *how much* more accountability? Reform should not harm the commercial certainty and stability that companies need for investment. If



the flame of regulation is turned up too high, the cost of capital will rise as well, and that may drive up prices.

There *are* flaws in the regulatory regimes. Some os those can be weeded out using the change mechanisms already built into the regulatory systems. Others will require legislation. For example, in railways, Railtrack's investment spending obligations are non-existent, despite the fact that over time they are being paid to renew the network, not just maintain it in steady state. That should be put right. Competition law enforcement is woefully slow and weak. The rail and telecoms regulators have put that right by designing new powers for themselves that sidestep the Office of Fair Trading and concentrate greater powers in their own hands. Other regulators will probably follow suit.

Effective regulation can easily be hampered by poor information in the hands of regulators, although some companies regard it as in their interests to confuse and overload their regulators with information in the hope that they will not find what they are looking for. The quality and efficiency of regulation is immensely important and the regulators should be equipped with better powers and resources to secure and analyse crucial information. The decisions of regulators must be made on the best possible factual and analytical bases.

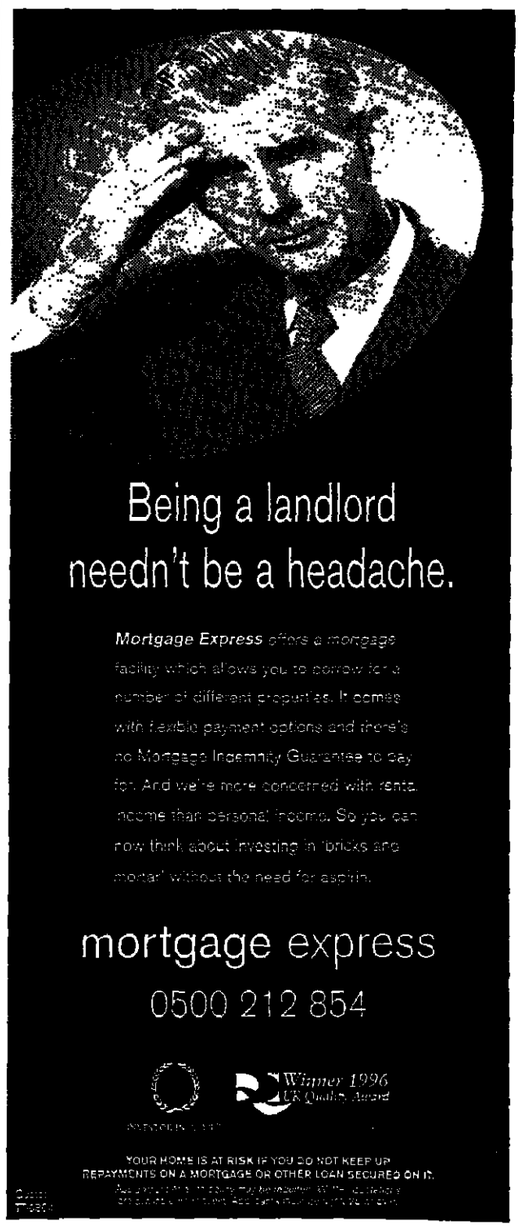
Regulators should give full reasons for their decisions. They should not perpetuate the practices of some who pretend that a statement of the effects of a decision is the same as explaining why that decision has been taken. Asset disposals can rob an industry and its dependent users of things essential to its development. In some industries, the regulatory controls on the infrastructure operator selling off key assets are far from good enough. That too must be put right.

Quality standards for services that regulation requires companies to provide need effective policing. Socially necessary services should be protected, as the case of South West Trains has illustrated.

The efficiency and economy of privatised companies is crucial to the wider economy. Infrastructure operators should publish clear information about their networks and their plans for enhancing them in a form that enables dependent users and new entrants to make sound investment decisions. And they should adopt fair and efficient commercial practices that promote the interests of the whole industry. Where there is unnecessary complexity in the contractual arrangements for the industry, they should be simplified. All this can be done quickly and easily, if the will is there.

The Labour Party has made it clear that sound public interest regulation is at the heart of their policy for the privatised industries. In doing so, they have chosen both the most effective and the cheapest instrument for protecting the public interest. If they get the chance to implement that policy, they should do so only with a thorough understanding of how the regulatory regimes work and a clear policy on public interest objectives. To do so would be to consign ownership issues to the dustbin of history.

The author is a partner of the City law firm Denton Hall specialising in the regulation of privatised utilities.



Irish to cut cost of calls

TELECOM EIREANN, the Republic of Ireland's state-controlled telecommunications company, yesterday announced a package of price reductions worth Ir£80 million (Eileen McCabe writes).

The cuts on international calls and telephone connection fees are the latest in a series by the company as it prepares for the opening of the Irish market to competition.

Telecom Eireann has cut jobs and tariffs over the past few years. Last summer, the Irish Government sold a 20 per cent stake in the company for Ir£183 million.

Tobacco groups duel over Marlboro Man

BY JON ASHWORTH

REMBRANDT GROUP, the South African tobacco-based conglomerate, is suing Philip Morris, the US cigarette group, over an alleged infringement of famous trade names.

In a writ, lodged at the High Court in London, Rembrandt alleges that Philip Morris has broken an agreement precluding it from using tobacco trademarks — including the Marlboro Man — in the southern African region. It is seeking an injunction against further breaches, and is pressing for unspecified damages.

The court move is an embarrassment to Philip Morris, which, with other US tobacco companies, faces high-profile law suits from American cancer sufferers.

The tobacco industry received a knock last month, when Liggett Group, the smallest of the US producers, broke ranks and said tobacco was addictive and could cause cancer. Under a deal with 22 state attorneys-general, Liggett pledged to pay 25 per cent of its profits for 25 years, in order to settle the litigation.

The four large tobacco companies obtained a court order, preventing Liggett from turning sensitive documents over to prosecutors.

Linklaters & Paines, the law firm, is acting for Rembrandt in its dispute with Philip Morris. The firm would not comment.

No one was available at Philip Morris in New York.



Piasecki: 15 new shops

Goldsmiths sales and payout rise

BY GEORGE SIVELL

GOLDSMITHS GROUP, the retail jewellers, reported a rise in pre-tax profits from £4.5 million to £6 million in the year to February 1 on sales up from £63 million to £70.4 million. Earnings rose from 15.11p to 19.12p, enabling total dividends to rise from 4.5p to 7.0p a share.

On the outlook for the current year, Jurek Piasecki, chairman and chief executive, said: "Although sales for the first two months of the year are up 6 per cent on a like-for-like basis and 11 per cent in total, there is still no clear evidence of a consistent recovery in consumer spending. Trading over Christmas was particularly fragile with increases only coming through in the last few days."

Mr Piasecki confirmed the group would open 15 shops this year.

"This accelerated opening programme will inevitably reduce, in the short term, the historic rate of growth, but the long-term prospects of the group will be significantly enhanced," he said.

The shares rose from 387½ to 390½.

Universal's shares fall

SHARES in Universal Salvage fell 65p to 137½p after the business support services group said its full-year profit would be "substantially below" current market expectations.

Universal added that Richard Bird, the managing director, has left with immediate effect. Cliff Bassett, the chairman, will take over until a successor is appointed.

Universal said that profits have declined in the short term as the company continues to implement further stringent measures to meet the highest ethical standards.

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M J Aalen, R J Abbott, A K A A Abu Smeihah, P Abu-Kaoud, S H Adams, A H A Ahmed, A Al-Tabbaa, P D Amos, A J Armstrong, M Asana, N L Ashcroft, W R Au Yeung, A Austin, C J Ayres, W T J Bailey, B Bajaiovic, H Bak A K Bansi, P A Barron, M A C Bartlett, E J Bassey, T D Beach, N J R Bebb, C J Beech, S J Beggs, A D Belcham, G *Bell*, P J *Bellamy*, *P L Belton*, *C R* Billington, C M Bird, D I Bowers, J R Bradley, D J Brambell, E T R Brown, M J P Brown, L R Bryer, A J R *Burton*, N A Caine, C F Camplisson, S M Carpenter, E F Carrick, T M Carrington, G M Carter, G J C Cavro, R D Chambers, P B Chapman, S C Cheung, S Chewins, C Y R Chow, M K Chung, S Y Chung, W F Chung, A F Clark, C J Clark, L R Clark, C S Cliff, J M Coats, S F Cobb, M J Coles, A J Connell, E C Cooper, S J Cowan, P A Cowin, M G F Croot-Schavemaker, S N Cross, M A Crossfield, N L Crossley, A R Dalley, D J Daniels, N Darbyshire, S Davies, S J K Davies, M T Dawe, J J De-La-Paz, H S Dhanjal, G L J Doig, P J Donald, L J Douthwaite, B Duguid, S Duke, R C M Duncan, W R Eddis, S M T El-Belbol, D J Ellis, M G Ellis, J A England, M M L Finney, D M Fitzparrick, E J L Forwood, J L Foster, G M Freeman, S A Freeman, *P W Friend*, M J Fudge, S S T Fung, R A Furniss, M D Gamble, G J Garrett, S K George, D A Gethin, S M Gethin, P A R Gibbs, M A Gill, W J Gillies, N S *Glanville*, A S D E Glover, M R Gordon, C Gower, J A G Grant, C W Green, S L Greig, N H Griffith, I N Grindey, J Grzeskowiak, K R Hadlow, C J Hamilton, N N Harding, M S Harper, P G Hill, P A Hinchliff, S R Hinley, A D Hobbs, I F Hogg, J D Howe, S J Hughes, P Hulbert, L H Humphries, Y C Hung, C L Hyder, A J E Ingle, P G Jenkins, R A Johns, A H Jones, M D Jones, R M Jones, S J Kellerman, D H Kelly, M A Kerswell, J A Kerton, H R Kilburn, J J Killeen, J S Kuang, B L Kwok, W *Kwong*, D J Lacey, *G A Lajng*, K W Lam, A C Landoll, P A Larcher, C J Larkin, *W S Lau*, C N *Ley*, B N Lim, F Lin, T W A Liu, A W Longmuir, A *W Lord*, K Luk, K K Ma, D M Macdonald, C M Maclean, N Maclean, M Macleod, A R H Mais, D E Malson, M S Man, A K *Marshall*, S D *Mason*, D S Matheson, C C Matsia, S C McKeown, H M McGurrich, P McGlashan, S McIntyre, A S *McNeil*, *I G McRobbie*, *C A* Mellon, D N Miller, J D Millington, I B Mills, A R Milne, D E Mitchell, P Moat, M Moradalizadeh, D J Morahan, I D Morris, R S Morrison, C J Mortlock, C Muir, F Murphy, G P Murphy, G S Murray, K A Murray, J Muscroft, S J Musselwhite, P R Newland, C P J Ng, N Nicholls, D J Nnachi, C M O'Brien, J O'Donnell, S O'Driscoll, V M O'Holloran, D M O'Meara, D R Olorenshaw, O O Olusanya, L N Orange, G J Owen, O A Oyekunle, R M Park, A D Parkin, *S D Parry*, *S E* Patterson, K J Pawlowski, K J Paylor, H L A Pe, S J Peart, I W Peffers, S C Penny, T J Perrins, M Phillips, B Philpott, R Picard, K B Poh, *P M Rahman*, J M D'Souza, Manthos Tome, S S Rausey, G J Rankin, J D Ranson, P W Rasmussen, M Ratnam, L Rea, D J *H Reed*, *J A Reilly*, *F F Renwick*, A R Richardson, P P Richardson, O J Riches, G D Ridley, P M Rigby, D J Rimmer, A R Ritchie, S Robinson, S Rossiter, J C Rowntree, T J Samphier, P C Sandeford, C L Sanderson, S M Sargent, P B Sayers, N S A Seah, J G Seaton, N P Shore, K Shorney, B C Sibert, A J A Sims, B Singh, S Sivakumar, L M Skinner, E Sreedharan, I Stelfox, A L Stephenson, A J Stirling, S G Suppiah, R M Swain, J Symmons, J W Symons, M G I Tait, R P Taylor, B P Temple, G M Thompson, P A *Thompson*, *C J Thomsen*, *M W J* Thurlow, N Tomlinson, M Tomsett, Tilman, S H Ting, Kok Tong, C E Triggs, D Trup, P A Tunnah, M M *Turnbull*, *I D Tyler*, *P Uszak*, S Vithagapandithan, J S Wagstaff, R N Walker, K D Waller, J R Wassermann, A Watson, A H Watterson, *J J Wearring*, C M Welch, P D Welrereveden, S C Werrett, M S West, S J Whalley, M J Whelan, G Wickenden, D Williams, G Williams, R D H Williams, W R Williamson, M H Willson, D M Wilson, D S Wilson, M T C Wilton, W J Withers, C M Wong, T Y K Wong, W C Wong, Y L R Wong, Y P Wong, K H H Wu, P J Wybrow, C K Yeung, T C A Yeung, *Y S H Yeung*, *Y L A Ying*, *H P Yip*, C S Young, K E Young, So Yu.

Institution of Electrical Engineers

M Z Abdullah, *R J Adams*, M L Adamson, M Ahmed, C L B Aitken, Evans, J J Akenhead, Al-Khayat, R Ali, C T Allbright, R P Allcock, A Amin, J Apperson, A P Apthorp, J Arkell, D W Arnold, G Atkinson, M P Atkinson, N G Atkinson, J O Bachmann, P W Bacon, K R G Bailey, M C Bale, D Barker, D F Barnes, S J Barnfather, S M Barraud, P A Barrett, J A Bartlett, M A Barton, C M Batchelor, P S Bath, S Baxter, G J Beale, D J Beasmont, A Beck, S J Beckreck, D N Bell, S N Beresford, W J Beton, Z Bien, J N Binnie, P T Birchenough, J Blackburn, T Blades, P E Bonner, D Boskovic, A J Bowden, L G Brake-Whitley, D *Bray*, *P M Bricknell*, *S R Britain*, J C Brittain, S P A Brocket, M C Bromwich, A J Brown, C A Brown, C C Brown, C E Brown, K D F *Brown*, *I D Brownlie*, *P Bryan*, C C Bryson, A E Buchanan, J Buchanan, P Burt, G S Butler, A Buttigieg, C M Byrne, R L Bywater, B H Cadogan, *J M Campbell*, T R Cannell, R D Canning, J Carnworth, S R Carroll, D A Carron, G C Carter, C T Cartwright, *J Carver*, R N Cary, A D Casey, J A R Caunt, R J Cavendish, H Chaharbaghi-Cichani, A J Chamberlain, C C Chan, C M Chan, C M A Chan, E Chan, H L Chan, K H Chan, K K Chan, S F F Chan, S T L Chan, T W D Chan, W S S Chan, Y T Chan, T J Chandler, C M E Chap, A D Chapman, J P Chapman, M J Charles, G K Charlesworth, J C M Chau, W T Chau, T A Chaudhri, S K F Cheng, T M Cheng, P Cheshire, K F Cheung, L F Cheung, S W Cheung, Y F Chin, K H Choi, K K Chow, T M *Chow*, *Y T Chow*, *G M Christmas*, M F Chu, C P Chung, T T G Chung, W K Chung, G G Clark, J D Clark, P J Clark, D J Clarke, I P Clarke, M A Clarke, *R M Clarkson-Webb*, *M R J* Clay, P C Clements, P Coackley, J D Cochlan, D F Collins, J P Collins, S A Collins, B V Conaway, G N *Copland*, *D O* Corrigan, A J Couch, K W Cowan, I J Coward, D D Cowper, A F Cox, P A Creevy, P A Crook, D G M Cruickshank, *S R Cull*, *J Curran*, S G D'Ujanga, R Dalby, G Dale, M B Daley, N S Dallard, I T Dalziel, N R Dartoyshire, M Darcy, Q G Davidson, J Davies, P N H Davies, P W Davies, J Davis, K Dawson, C Daysh, W D De Alwis, J P De Kock, J P Deane, M J Deen, A R Dent, J M Devile, G Digby, C W Dinmock, G Doel, S J Doherty, Z K Dolny, D G Dorrell, T Dossajl, L A Drew, V Dudykevych, A C Dumbill, G M Maclean, N Maclean, M Macleod, A R H Mais, D E Malson, M S Man, A K *Marshall*, S D *Mason*, D S Matheson, C C Matsia, S C McKeown, H M McGurrich, P McGlashan, S McIntyre, A S *McNeil*, *I G McRobbie*, *C A* Mellon, D N Miller, J D Millington, I B Mills, A R Milne, D E Mitchell, P Moat, M Moradalizadeh, D J Morahan, I D Morris, R S Morrison, C J Mortlock, C Muir, F Murphy, G P Murphy, G S Murray, K A Murray, J Muscroft, S J Musselwhite, P R Newland, C P J Ng, N Nicholls, D J Nnachi, C M O'Brien, J O'Donnell, S O'Driscoll, V M O'Holloran, D M O'Meara, D R Olorenshaw, O O Olusanya, L N Orange, G J Owen, O A Oyekunle, R M Park, A D Parkin, *S D Parry*, *S E* Patterson, K J Pawlowski, K J Paylor, H L A Pe, S J Peart, I W Peffers, S C Penny, T J Perrins, M Phillips, B Philpott, R Picard, K B Poh, *P M Rahman*, J M D'Souza, Manthos Tome, S S Rausey, G J Rankin, J D Ranson, P W Rasmussen, M Ratnam, L Rea, D J *H Reed*, *J A Reilly*, *F F Renwick*, A R Richardson, P P Richardson, O J Riches, G D Ridley, P M Rigby, D J Rimmer, A R Ritchie, S Robinson, S Rossiter, J C Rowntree, T J Samphier, P C Sandeford, C L Sanderson, S M Sargent, P B Sayers, N S A Seah, J G Seaton, N P Shore, K Shorney, B C Sibert, A J A Sims, B Singh, S Sivakumar, L M Skinner, E Sreedharan, I Stelfox, A L Stephenson, A J Stirling, S G Suppiah, R M Swain, J Symmons, J W Symons, M G I Tait, R P Taylor, B P Temple, G M Thompson, P A *Thompson*, *C J Thomsen*, *M W J* Thurlow, N Tomlinson, M Tomsett, Tilman, S H Ting, Kok Tong, C E Triggs, D Trup, P A Tunnah, M M *Turnbull*, *I D Tyler*, *P Uszak*, S Vithagapandithan, J S Wagstaff, R N Walker, K D Waller, J R Wassermann, A Watson, A H Watterson, *J J Wearring*, C M Welch, P D Welrereveden, S C Werrett, M S West, S J Whalley, M J Whelan, G Wickenden, D Williams, G Williams, R D H Williams, W R Williamson, M H Willson, D M Wilson, D S Wilson, M T C Wilton, W J Withers, C M Wong, T Y K Wong, W C Wong, Y L R Wong, Y P Wong, K H H Wu, P J Wybrow, C K Yeung, T C A Yeung, *Y S H Yeung*, *Y L A Ying*, *H P Yip*, C S Young, K E Young, So Yu.

Institution of Incorporated Engineers

E H Billett, A *Cherrington*, *N* Coard, L R Gillbe, D F Hesketh, H C Jones, G K Lacy, C M Macgregor, S D Murray, M A Springer, D G Sutton, A J *Williamson*, *J L C* Wooster.

Institution of Gas Engineers

S R Ail, C P Glover, R N Jenkins, M J Matthews, L A Murphy, S G C Sutcliffe.

Institution of Mechanical Engineers

A S *Aitken*, A T *Aitken*, E A Alexander, G S Allchurch, R B Allen, S J Altria, G Anderson, S R Angel, D N T Ansell, N Arif, P K Arnold, P R Ashley, R J Aspray, A C *Atkins*, R *Aynor*, J Baggs, D Bagtani, A N Baines, J D G Balkwill, R J Bannister, M A Bargent, B Barnett, S T Basford, R J *Bawn*, *S R Beale*, *D P Beard*, G J Bell, H Bell, R J Bell, J Bennett, D J Bensley, E L G Bertorelli, A J Bessent, I M Bill, J Billingsley, A J *Billington*, *A W Blackwood*, *H R* Blaxill, S J Block, C A Boland, S Bolongaro, G N Bolton, S A Bolton, S L Bond, P N Bowcher, A V Bower, D A Bowes, J R Bowler, P Bowling, B H Bradshaw, D N Bramley, R T Bridges, C S Broadley, D A Brooks, S J E Brooks, P I Brown, P M Bruce, L R Brunette, J C Bryan, C S Buchan, P A Buggy, A J Bunn, M J Burgess, A M Burns, S W Bushnell, R T Butcher, A R Butler, D C Butler, S Bygrave, N W Campbell, B Capaldi, G M Carr, G M Carroll, D A Carter, T Cartwright, K H Chan, D K Chan, S W Chan, B G Chaplin, P N B Chapman, M S Chauhan, C W Cheng, W H Cheng, J T Cherrie, K H Choi, W K Choy, D Chunda, *P Clark*, *J M Clarke*, *R J Clay*, P Clifford, R J Clooney, M S Colclough, M N Cole, N C Corbett, J P Cossins, D W Cousar, L Cowie, I R Cowlishaw, *B C* Cran, N C Crew, R A Crofts, P M Cronin, C Crook, E A K Crosbie, S J Crudge, J P Cullen, O R Cumberlege, G Cumpstone, P J Curran, P E Dalton, D A Daniel, M J Dann, M M Danton, J S Darar, E G Dason-Barber, D W Davies, M Davies, A E S Davis, M D Dee, G P Dhami, N A Dinmore, P J Donnelly, M J Donnison, I Dooley, R C Doran, J G Dowley, M C *Downey*, J R Dyrew, C J Dymmond, R S Dyson-Joyce, A D Edge, J J Edirisinghe, M P Eldridge, Q P J Elliott, E Esenel, N *C Evers*, *A M Fairbrother*, *J G Falla*, D J Farrar, M C Fenn, N J Fenwick, J R Ferrari, B A Fitzgerald, P J Flatt, J Flaxman, A C Foley, S K Fong, G J Ford, H M *Forde*, *P A G Forster*, *N B* Fox, C S Freeman, M D Fry, G M Gibson, P M Gill, J E Gillett, J M Gilliles, M Goddard, R Godfrey, S E Goodchild, R Goodfellow, A Grady, A F Grant, M R Grant, C P Greaves, P Green, N S J Greenway, N J Greenwood, M A Gribben, P E Grimwood, C Haigh, T J Haldane, P Hamilton, R J Hancock, M W Hanrahan, N S Harding, G R *Hargreaves*, *P A Harley*, *R S Harris*, M R Harrison, S M Harrison, J D Harry, D Hart, D C Hartgill, G E Harvey, H Hassan, D Hawkins, A *Hayes*, *J P Helas*, *D J Hilton*, *T F* Hok, M E W Manning, C M Mannox, Z Mao, M Marrion, P Marsh, R F Marshall, C B Marvell, D F P N Matavire, G S Matharu, M J Maw, T Maxwell, J McAllister, R McAllister, T K McCarter, J F McConnell, S M McConnell, J C McDonald, S McFeeley, J P McGale, N J G McGaughey, B J McGlinchy, A J McGovern, J G McIlwaine, D E McKean, M L McKie, H W H McKinlay, M J McKissock, C N King, F J McLoughlin, M P McMahon, I McManus, D S McMillan, I N McNeil, P C McRae, R P Mercer, P D Merrell, R H Miller, D N Mills, D R Millward, E J Minty, C Mistry, L *Mizzi*, *D H Morgan*, *T G Morgan*, J C Morris, F J Morrison, N G Moss, M R Mould, S J Munn, C J Murdoch, P F Mursell, P J Mycock, K Nash, J D Neate, G W Nesbitt, R D Newey, K S Ng, C N I, J M C Nicholas, M J Nicholson, J T G Nixon, M C O'Dwyer, M J F O'Flaherty, M P O'Keefe, S O'Malley, R O'Neill, J J O'Shea, E J O'Sullivan, J N Okeze, T S Okullo-Oballa, D G Orton, J A Owens, G Padmanabhan, M Palfrey, R A Palk, M K Palmer, R N Panday, A S Parker, J L Parker, A D Parnell, P A Patel, S D Patrirana, M Patterson, I R Peachey, J L Pearce, M J Pearce, M C Pearson, S J Pearson, N Peonides, K G Peters, R D Peters, J S Phillips, R P E Phillips, M C J Pilling, A Plant, N M J Plimley, E L Plumb, R K M Pohl, P J Pollard, C C P Poon, C H Poon, C W Poon, N R Porter, R Postlethwaite, R J Potter, T Prendergast, E J D Price, C J Pritchard, P A Proudlock, P A Pullan, T J Purdue, R D Quantrell, K P Quinn, E P Quirke, H A Rabia, B Rae, J Rainford, R M Ranaweera, J F Randall, I C Ratcliffe, J P Rawding, J Rayne, N J Raynor, D M J Raysmith, J W A Reid, A J Rees, J M Rees, A D M Reid, A G Reid, X Ren, I Reynolds, D Rhodes, S J Richards, A G Riley, P R P Roberts, R S *Robertson*, F M Robinson, S G Robinson, D J Rogers, N S Rogers, A J Roome, D M Rowe, D A Rowland, G C Roy, S Rushton, J C Russell, S R M A Salem, M C Salmon, N D Samaan, D Savory, A P W Scott, G C F Scott, M Scott, P R Scott, W C Scon, J A Sears, J H Seddon, *M M Seddon*, *R* Selby, G D Sellers, M R J Senior, M Shabeer, P J Sharma, B Sharman, B A Sharp, N J Sharwood-Smith, W J *Shepherd*, *R J Sherry*, T Shishiyanu, D P Short, F W K Shul, J D Sibson, D E Sida, M W Siddle, T H Simpson, K K Sin, D W G *Sinclair*, *J R Slouh*, *C R Skinner*, P D Skipper, A Skodras, E T Slingsby, G B Smillie, A P Smith, D B Smith, G C Smith, J E Smith, M R *Smith*, R P *Smith*, S D *Smith*, A J Smithurst, M C Sneddon, H W So, G J Soutar, S Srikanthan, B J Stadnyk, S D Staines, V V Starovoitov, R C Staunton, C C W Stephenson, M L Stevenson, K L Stewart, L K Stewart, P H Stoljarchuk, T Sullivan, S J Tan, H Tanaka, R L Tanner, S Tarpey, D A Taylor, T J Taylor, K H Tchah, G S Thomas, P K Thomas, G R G Thompson, T Thong, S F Thrower, E M Tindall, C To, G F Towell, D J Traynor, G C Tron, K Y Tsang, A A Turner, M C Turner, J K E Tvedt, *D J Unite*, *I D Upton*, *J R* Varley, K L Varley, A P Wade, C B Wakely, D R Walker, J C Walker, P J Walker, A J Waller, B M Walsh, J G Walton, C S Wan, H F Wang, Y Y Wang, G D Watkins, S P Watkins, B Watson, D J Watson, J L Watson, N D Weeks, C C Wei, W Wheeler, I White, D J Whitley, D J Wickie, S B Wilcher, J D Wilkes, D M Williams, P J Williams, T J Willink, P J Willis, D G B Wilson, J N Wilson, G A S Wingate, G A J Winstanley, J W Withers, R J Womersley, C W Wong, M K Wong, P Y Wong, S Wong, S S Wong, W K Wong, W M Wong, C W Y Woo, M D Wood, D S *Woodfine*, G P Woolley, M J Wright, R G Wright, W L Wu, M K Wynd, A Xu, H Yamasaki, M C Yang, C M Yeung, Y S Yip, Y K Yiu, *B M Young*.

Institution of Engineering Designers

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Institution of Gas Engineers

S R Ail, C P Glover, R N Jenkins, M J Matthews, L A Murphy, S G C Sutcliffe.

Institution of Mechanical Engineers

A S *Aitken*, A T *Aitken*, E A Alexander, G S Allchurch, R B Allen, S J Altria, G Anderson, S R Angel, D N T Ansell, N Arif, P K Arnold, P R Ashley, R J Aspray, A C *Atkins*, R *Aynor*, J Baggs, D Bagtani, A N Baines, J D G Balkwill, R J Bannister, M A Bargent, B Barnett, S T Basford, R J *Bawn*, *S R Beale*, *D P Beard*, G J Bell, H Bell, R J Bell, J Bennett, D J Bensley, E L G Bertorelli, A J Bessent, I M Bill, J Billingsley, A J *Billington*, *A W Blackwood*, *H R* Blaxill, S J Block, C A Boland, S Bolongaro, G N Bolton, S A Bolton, S L Bond, P N Bowcher, A V Bower, D A Bowes, J R Bowler, P Bowling, B H Bradshaw, D N Bramley, R T Bridges, C S Broadley, D A Brooks, S J E Brooks, P I Brown, P M Bruce, L R Brunette, J C Bryan, C S Buchan, P A Buggy, A J Bunn, M J Burgess, A M Burns, S W Bushnell, R T Butcher, A R Butler, D C Butler, S Bygrave, N W Campbell, B Capaldi, G M Carr, G M Carroll, D A Carter, T Cartwright, K H Chan, D K Chan, S W Chan, B G Chaplin, P N B Chapman, M S Chauhan, C W Cheng, W H Cheng, J T Cherrie, K H Choi, W K Choy, D Chunda, *P Clark*, *J M Clarke*, *R J Clay*, P Clifford, R J Clooney, M S Colclough, M N Cole, N C Corbett, J P Cossins, D W Cousar, L Cowie, I R Cowlishaw, *B C* Cran, N C Crew, R A Crofts, P M Cronin, C Crook, E A K Crosbie, S J Crudge, J P Cullen, O R Cumberlege, G Cumpstone, P J Curran, P E Dalton, D A Daniel, M J Dann, M M Danton, J S Darar, E G Dason-Barber, D W Davies, M Davies, A E S Davis, M D Dee, G P Dhami, N A Dinmore, P J Donnelly, M J Donnison, I Dooley, R C Doran, J G Dowley, M C *Downey*, J R Dyrew, C J Dymmond, R S Dyson-Joyce, A D Edge, J J Edirisinghe, M P Eldridge, Q P J Elliott, E Esenel, N *C Evers*, *A M Fairbrother*, *J G Falla*, D J Farrar, M C Fenn, N J Fenwick, J R Ferrari, B A Fitzgerald, P J Flatt, J Flaxman, A C Foley, S K Fong, G J Ford, H M *Forde*, *P A G Forster*, *N B* Fox, C S Freeman, M D Fry, G M Gibson, P M Gill, J E Gillett, J M Gilliles, M Goddard, R Godfrey, S E Goodchild, R Goodfellow, A Grady, A F Grant, M R Grant, C P Greaves, P Green, N S J Greenway, N J Greenwood, M A Gribben, P E Grimwood, C Haigh, T J Haldane, P Hamilton, R J Hancock, M W Hanrahan, N S Harding, G R *Hargreaves*, *P A Harley*, *R S Harris*, M R Harrison, S M Harrison, J D Harry, D Hart, D C Hartgill, G E Harvey, H Hassan, D Hawkins, A *Hayes*, *J P Helas*, *D J Hilton*, *T F* Hok, M E W Manning, C M Mannox, Z Mao, M Marrion, P Marsh, R F Marshall, C B Marvell, D F P N Matavire, G S Matharu, M J Maw, T Maxwell, J McAllister, R McAllister, T K McCarter, J F McConnell, S M McConnell, J C McDonald, S McFeeley, J P McGale, N J G McGaughey, B J McGlinchy, A J McGovern, J G McIlwaine, D E McKean, M L McKie, H W H McKinlay, M J McKissock, C N King, F J McLoughlin, M P McMahon, I McManus, D S McMillan, I N McNeil, P C McRae, R P Mercer, P D Merrell, R H Miller, D N Mills, D R Millward, E J Minty, C Mistry, L *Mizzi*, *D H Morgan*, *T G Morgan*, J C Morris, F J Morrison, N G Moss, M R Mould, S J Munn, C J Murdoch, P F Mursell, P J Mycock, K Nash, J D Neate, G W Nesbitt, R D Newey, K S Ng, C N I, J M C Nicholas, M J Nicholson, J T G

Shares win back some lost ground

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
488	407½	Allied Domecq	440½	-	6.8	13.5
626	547½	Bulmer (HP)	580	-	4.5	17.5
75½	57½	Burn Stewart	58½	- ½	7.5	14.6
1040	865	Glenmorangie A	1020	-	1.5	27.2
503½	425½	Grand Met	460	+ 3½	4.1	15.5
518½	424	Guinness†	501	+ 2	4.0	14.2
398	334	Highland Dist	347½	-	3.0	16.7
336	257	Matthew Clark	328½	+ ½	9.2	15.5
1020½	804	Morgan W	980	-	6.4	12.2
1509½	1405½	SA Breweries	1509½	+ 19½	1.8	-

BANKS

4705½	3671½	ABN AMRO	3975	+ 25	2.9	16.5
811	710	Abbey Nat	788½	+ 18½	4.3	13.5
455½	368½	Allied Irish	415½	+ 4½	4.4	-
4585½	3630½	Bank New Z	3844½	+ 49½	4.9	-
7870½	5753½	Bank America	6250½	+ 67½	-	-
373½	291½	Bank Scotland	322	+ 2	2.9	11.8
1226	978½	Barclays†	1065½	+ 24	3.7	10.6
635	517½	Bk of Ireland	599	+ 8	3.5	13.5
7660½	6030½	Chiberry	6850	+ 43½	-	-
1739½	1360½	Comm'zbk	1625½	+ 19½	2.0	-
867½	685½	Dir Ass Nor Y	816½	+ 16½	2.7	-
3490½	2709½	Deutsche Bk	3235½	+ 19½	2.0	-
812½	758½	Espirito Santo	808½	+ 9½	3.8	12.6
1572½	1207½	Fuji Bank Y	1504½	+ 19½	0.6	-
1652	1272½	HSBC†	1476	+ 29	3.5	12.8
1563½	1241	HSBC HK†	1429½	+ 34½	3.6	12.4
695	483½	Irish Permt	667	-	2.1	19.0
934	804	Lloyds TSB†	901	+ 9	5.3	16.2
1199	869½	Nat Aust Bk	1149½	+ 1	5.5	18.0
1444½	885	Nat West†	1382	+ 12½	5.2	10.5
692½	508	Nat Bk Scot	637	+ 13½	4.3	11.9
2080½	681	Royal Scot†	840	+ 14	2.2	15.1
2126½	1564½	Wells Fargo	2154½	-	1.9	-
374½	322½	Westpac	355	+ 1½	4.1	10.6

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

878½	793½	Bass	817½	+ 7	3.8	16.1
69½	53½	Bt Sr Ire Brk	68	-	4.8	14.6
265	170½	Restaurnd Brw	183½	+ 3½	1.6	24.5
159½	137½	Chg Center Rest	150	-	1.9	28.3
744½	612½	Compass Grp†	682	+ ½	1.6	26.3
2080	2021	Corp Grp P 'A'	2080	-	2.1	17.8
1065	855	Enterprise Inn	1020	+ 15	4.0	11.3
586	508½	Emanuels Grp	536½	-	3.6	16.7
750	643	Greene King	699½	+ 1	4.2	11.0
2375	1645	Grosvenor Invst	1937½	-	3.9	18.7
285	218½	Hanson Pic Ge	243½	+ 2½	1.5	23.0
2680	2275	Hardy Hanso	2545½	+ 2½	2.9	11.7
2600	2700	Holt J	2725	-	2.6	14.7
78	63½	Inv Restaurnt	73½	+ ½	2.7	-
367	343	Meadow	358	-	2.2	16.1
3155½	2452	Mecca Reap	2970	+ 8½	2.0	16.1
615	563	Menzies	600	-	2.8	15.8
47½	32½	Paramount	32½	-	2.8	-
820½	527½	Pizza Express	695	+ 28½	0.5	45.3
1437½	1309	Ransdens (H)	1412½	+ 2½	1.5	38.5
378½	284	Regent Inns	315½	-	3.2	10.5
700½	643½	Scot & Nwe	674½	+ 10	3.7	20.4
289	248½	Vaux Group	265	+ 8½	5.0	12.6
1190	1105	Whitbread JD†	1165	-	1.0	26.4
819	715	Whitbread	777½	+ 6½	2.6	15.7
705½	627½	Wolverhmpth D	660½	-	3.2	14.5
459½	419½	Yates Bros	461	-	3.6	31.8
635	615	Young 'A'	635	+ 12½	3.0	25.3

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

30½	20½	AAF Inds	23½	+ 2	-	-
206	170	Abbey	200	-	3.5	20.5
298½	237½	Allen	296½	-	2.9	18.3
304	242½	Amec	298½	+ 4	3.0	-
402	347½	Arjay	395	+ 2½	3.0	19.7
535	485	Arc Inves Spec	527½	-	1.2	11.4
3647	2727½	Ashtead†	3744½	+ 3½	1.4	24.8
48½	29½	Associated	47	-	1.7	12.2
42	30	Bailey (Ben) Con	38½	-	4.5	-
39½	24½	Bardt	38½	-	4.0	21.6
64½	49½	Beazer	57½	-	2.8	33.0
2911½	247	Barrat Devel	2677½	-	2.2	14.3
210	165½	Beazer†	189½	-	4.5	13.1
361½	295½	Bellway	325½	- 2½	3.1	12.9
211½	161	Bicherich	193½	-	3.6	12.9
769½	605	Berkeley Gp	707½	- 4	1.9	17.7
166	150	Bett Bros	152	-	4.6	4.6
265	230	Bovis (Henry)	265	-	3.6	11.7
399½	279½	Brandon Hire	384½	+ 19½	0.6	-
35½	27½	Brdgnds Hld	30	-	3.0	8.7
70	42½	Br Bldg & Eng	64½	-	4.7	-
159	128½	Bryant	134	- 4	4.2	18.7
125½	99½	CALA	111½	-	3.9	14.6
6½	5	Campbell & Ann	6	-	-	-
81½	53½	Clarke T	73½	- 3	8.7	12.4
46	46	Costain†	46	-	-	-
66½	51	Countrywide†	62	-	3.4	24.2
94	80½	Crest Nicholson†	86½	-	3.6	18.2
299	230	Cussons	292½	+ ½	8.2	-
175	165	Ent Group†	175	-	11	-
21½	15½	Galliford†	18½	-	6.8	20.2
927½	857½	Gleeson (M.J)	927½	-	2.2	16.7
59½	45½	Green (Eastn)	52½	-	7.1	16.8
266	206	Hamilton Estate	230½	- 1	1.7	21.6
150	123	Hanson Trust	147	-	2.8	16.1
21½	16½	Howard Mchgs	17½	-	3.7	18.7
253½	192½	Jarvis	222½	+ 6	1.9	17.2
251	182½	Kellert	215½	+ 2	2.3	27
250½	195	Kier	215½	-	3.8	12.9
341	279	Laing (J)	335½	-	3.5	-
129½	110½	Laing (John) Pfd	124½	-	6.4	-
12½	9	Lovell (V.J)	10½	-	-	-
210½	162½	Mauricos (J)	185½	-	3.7	14.6
182½	125½	McAlpine (A)	169½	-	3.6	15.8
119½	95½	McCarthy & S	115	+ 1	2.5	18.9
75	57½	Mckenney	60	-	-	-
235½	152½	Morgan Crucible	202½	-	2.6	15.4
2720	2207½	Morrison Const	2720	-	2.1	21.2
136	109½	Mowlem (J)	117½	+ ½	3.2	13.4
266	214	Persimmon†	231½	+ ½	5.1	15.3
126	109½	Pochin†	109½	-	2.9	11.3
144½	97½	Powdrig	139½	-	3.4	46.0
167½	127½	Prester Ind	160	-	-	14.2
179½	145½	Redpath	151½	- 2	2.8	15.5
297	267	Sheriff Hdgs	295	+ 2	3.1	16.7
73	51	Shanks	55	+ ½	8.5	7.3
352½	327½	Speedfm	330	-	1.2	-
183	166	Stag	166	-	10.5	-
155½	115	Tay Homes†	134½	-	6.6	29.2
164½	153	Taylor Woodrw†	165½	+ ½	2.5	16.3
627½	512½	Tilbury Douglas†	627½	-	4.6	-
21½	13	Try Group	21	+ ½	-	12.5
74	39½	Wilcon	64	+ ½	7.9	-
134½	112	Wimpey	128½	-	4.4	-
64½	36½	Ward Hidgs	56½	-	-	-
371	339½	Westbury	352½	- 1	3.1	22.1
104	74	Wiggins	91	-	-	41.7
173½	152½	Wilson (Con)	164	+ 2	3.7	18.1
545	471½	Wilson Bowdn	525½	- 1	2.3	17.7
155	125	Wimpey Gp	140	-	4.9	44.2

BUILDING MATERIALS

388	329½	BPB	328½	- ½	3.8	15.9
110½	95½	Baggeridge Brk	102½	-	3.8	25.2
42	33	Blanket	41	+ ½	6.1	17.7
48½	27½	Blockleys	39½	-	-	-
422½	351	Blue Circle†	408½	+ 1	1.1	17.4
91½	76½	Brandon PLC	84½	-	7.4	-
140½	118	Br Dredging	135	-	5.2	15.5
640½	562½	CRH	608½	+ 2½	1.8	-
47½	40½	Caldarwood Hldg	47½	-	8.2	4.9
192½	165½	Cantor†	169½	-	4.7	-
274½	236½	Caradon†	247½	+ 1½	4.9	12.2
134½	118	Cavalier pl	125½	+ 1	7.4	-
165	90½	Charlton Grp†	86½	-	6.2	8.4
272½	237½	Dyson (JJ.)	237½	-	4.5	14.0
145	122	Dyson 'A'	125½	-	5.0	7.4
4	2½	Ernstone	3½	+ ½	-	-
280	230	Epwin	265	-	4.3	18.8
135½	112½	Fibre	122½	+ 2	-	13.5
425½	345	Gibbs & Dandy†	402½	-	5.1	-
144	126	Graham Grp	136	+ 1	5.4	-
363½	333½	Hatfield (J)	333½	-	3.5	14.2
306	271½	Hanson	289½	+ 6½	5.3	-
277	245½	Hepworth†	267	+ ½	3.3	14.5
80	72½	Hewden†	72½	-	4.4	14.7
268	233½	Heyrod Wtwll	258½	-	6.7	10.7
75½	66	Ibstock†	68	-	3.7	-
530	470	Johnston	515	-	3.0	-
82½	65½	Littlehsft†	77½	-	3.1	13.0
132½	118	Marley†	123	-	5.1	13.0
169½	119½	Meldrum†	120	-	5.4	12.9
420	361½	Meyer Int	400	+ 6	3.4	37.4
180½	149	Newman Inds†	173½	-	5.3	-
98½	77½	Norcros	90½	-	5.5	-
27½	22½	Pilkington	27½	-	1.7	51.0
196	115	Pilkington	116½	- 1½	5.2	18.3
264½	232	Polypipe†	243½	-	1.6	19.5
1025	678½	RMC Gp	998	+ 17½	0.6	17.2
3811½	322	Redland	361	+ 2½	0.0	17.2
92	74	Reskol	81½	-	7.4	-
114½	98½	Rebrnd	108	-	7.3	-
1185½	911½	Rugby Group†	1108	- 1½	4.1	18.4
1025½	924½	Russell (AJ)	1007½	-	2.4	-
3480	2417½	SIG†	3275	- 2½	2.7	15.9
3½	2½	SMP	2½	-	-	-
237½	211½	Sharpe & Fisher†	230½	-	3.1	-
20½	12	Spring Ram	13½	-	6.1	-
1870½	1776½	Stanley Mchg	1830½	-	6.6	-
196	139½	Tarmac	184	-	6.6	-
140	100	Tilbn	133½	-	4.7	12.3
1043	849	Travis Perkins†	968	- 4	2.7	17.1
52½	34½	Tudor†	48½	+ ½	2.1	-
514	441	Wellaway	485½	+ 6	2.7	18.0

CHEMICALS

170	142½	Albright & Wil†	160½	+ 4	5.4	11.9
137	118½	Allied Colloids	124	+ 1	2.9	22.2
139	117	Amtex Ind	127½	-	5.6	10.8
295	245½	Ambrsdr Gp	95½	-	2.6	18.6
3	0½	Anglo Ind	2½	-	-	9.0
2625	2112½	BASF DM	2240½	+ 19½	2.9	-
1060	854½	BOC	943	-	5.3	18.9
308	248	BTP	268	-	5.3	14.1
2660½	2246½	Bayer DM50	2446½	+ 37½	2.2	-
712½	82½	Brent Chemic†	94	-	4.3	10.9
224½	185½	Br Vita†	192½	-	6.1	9.7
192½	162½	Bronner Mond†	184½	+ 4	3.5	-
311½	270½	Caering (W)	285½	- ½	7.0	18.6
222½	185½	Clay Technology†	185½	- ½	7.9	18.9
402½	348½	Courtaulds	345½	- ½	4.2	12.6
364	288	Crodal	350	+ 1	3.1	14.5
3054½	2704½	Dalfilter	2950	+ 1	4.0	14.8
3229½	2944½	Elm & Everard†	3000	+ ½	5.0	11.1
73	48½	Euro Colour	56½	-	10.5	6.8
106½	91½	Elkbon	92½	-	-	16.1
88	66	Hickson	66	-	-	-
2803	2316½	Hoechst	2665½	+ 50	2.0	-
152½	118½	Holliday Chem	152	+ 13	4.3	14.5
780½	681½	ICI	714½	+ 14	5.6	21.1
214½	170½	Inspec†	185	+ 1	5.2	18.1
135½	119	Kalon†	125	+ 1	5.2	20.4
219	625	Lancstr†	676	+ 1½	4.5	14.4
192	152	Mondrn†	170	-	8.5	18.6
91	68	Mrtkbrn	87	-	4.8	-
36	29	Metrnect	32	-	2.9	19.2
308	240	Norsk†	295	-	3.4	27.8
245	213	Scapa	227½	-	5.3	7.4
29	21	Sutcliffe Speak	27	-	5.3	28.3
1350	1139½	Tdmds Chem	1307	+ 1½	0.5	-
697½	587½	Wrtsbrwr Pl	650	- 1½	4.9	-
243	165	Yorks Cpt	241½	+ 6	4.7	-
381½	342	Yule Catto	357½	+ 1	2.9	15.7

DISTRIBUTORS

282½	132½	Action Cp Sds	178	+ 2½	-	21.7
388	305	Adam & Harvey	315	-	8.2	6.3
2½	2½	Alexanderpl	9½	-	1.3	-
73½	57½	Applegarth	67½	- ½	13.2	8.7
3½	3	Ass Br Eng	3	-	2.5	-
545	510	BSS Group	512½	-	5.0	19.0
16½	15½	Bensing Power	15½	-	2.5	11.1
39½	34½	Bogod 'A'	35½	+ 3½	3.2	-
655	610	Bunzl†	626	-	1.1	-
27	19	Eddgard Sir	22	-	4.8	-
115½	95½	Bill Fittings	112½	-	4.8	12.5
310	300	Cellyns	302½	-	4.8	12.5
187½	167½	Cir Group	171½	- 1	2.8	15.7
137½	117½	Cavendish	133½	-	3.2	8.8
100	73½	Charles Sidney	76	-	7.2	-
59½	51½	Coins (DC)	53	-	5.3	6.3
121	97½	Dng Mstrm	107½	-	9.4	-
134½	122½	Donegan D	124	-	2.9	13.9
408	348½	Diploma	347½	- ½	5.2	12.9

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

429	327½	Anthropos	357	+ 1½	1.8	-
328	263½	Ascot Hldgs	286½	+ 1½	2.3	-
876	710	Broken Hill	804	-	3.0	16.4
299	237½	BTR	256	- 4	4.7	14.1
592	482	BBTY	511	- 2½	3.0	16.7
165½	128	Bibby (J)	138	-	5.0	10.9
600	530½	Brierley Inv	559½	- ½	8.7	9.0
1655	1315	Bunzl	1495½	+ 1	4.2	11.0
286	215	Cookson	279½	+ 1	4.2	16.7
229½	200½	Cookit	205	-	2.9	18.7
2671½	2326½	Hanks (Philip)	2477½	-	4.4	15.1
3209½	2845	Hanson	3145½	+ 2½	2.3	-
155	148	Holding Tech†	153½	+ 2	2.6	14.7
240½	208	ISA Int	228½	-	3.1	16.5
265	240½	Jacksoncpr	257½	+ 1½	5.1	15.0
52½	45½	Jacks (Wm)	52½	-	4.8	18.1
246½	214½	Kwik-Fit†	236	-	3.1	16.5
367	316½	Lon Scottish†	331½	- ½	6.0	11.9
122	102	Lonhro†	103	-	9.7	6.9
14½	11	Mallay Gpt	13	+ ½	6.3	11.8
8	5½	Middlesex	7½	-	13	11.4
41½	31½	Mitchells	35½	-	0.8	-
472	229	Norbros	256	+ 1	3.9	7.1
1695	1311½	Northumbr	1525	+ 4½	3.9	8.6
3525½	2654½	PentoVir	3099½	-	3.2	-
4845½	3429½	Pentkoagh	4284½	-	3.3	17.1
2511	1956	Premier Farnell	2181	- 1	4.9	17.8
2221	1695½	Perry Gp	2055	-	5.6	-
348	307½	REA	315	-	1.6	37.8
25½	21½	Rotork	24	-	-	-
28	18½	Romney	20	- ½	9.4	6.9
4	2½	Ross Gp	3	-	-	-
1695½	1367½	Rotherwd Hpkn	1476	+ 29	3.5	12.8
1563½	1241	HSBC HK†	1429½	+ 34½	3.6	12.4
695	483½	Irish Permt	667	-	2.1	19.0
934	804	Lloyds TSB†	901	+ 9	5.3	16.2
1199	869½	Nat Aust Bk	1149½	+ 1	5.5	18.0
1444½	885	Nat West†	1382	+ 12½	5.2	10.5
692½	508	Nat Bk Scot	637	+ 13½	4.3	11.9
2080½	681	Royal Scot†	840	+ 14	2.2	15.1
2126½	1564½	Wells Fargo	2154½	-	1.9	-
374½	322½	Westpac	355	+ 1½	4.1	10.6

ELECTRICITY

163½	125½	Br Energy PP	136½	+ 2½	7.3	-
671	668	East Midlands	670	-	5.9	9.9
1020½	463½	Energy Group	501½	- 3	5.2	9.7
705	627½	London Elec†	705½	-	7.3	10.6
217½	192	Midland Elec†	211½	- ½	6.6	15.5
552½	469½	Midlnd Expl	502½	- 3	5.9	9.5
652	537	Northern Elec	651	-	8.4	5.9
386	352½	Nthn Ireland	361	+ 1½	6.8	6.7
664	565½	Powergen	620½	- 6½	4.8	7.1
375½	319½	Hydro-Elec	375	+ 5½	5.4	10.9
376	331½	Scottish Power	366	+ 4	5.6	10.9
451½	373½	Southern Elec	402	+ 6	7.3	8.7
927	788½	Yorkshire Elec	924	+ 5	5.8	12.2

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

488½	475½	Acal	480	- 2½	2.3	15.7
240½	182½	Acorn Comp	240	- 2½	-	-
414½	385	Actastel	414½	- 2½	0.7	-
225½	198½	Amstrad†	218½	+ 1½	1.8	-
58	35½	Anite Grp	48½	-	-	-
48½	44½	Arlen	45½	- 1	2.5	11.1
164½	141½	Aztec	156	+ ½	1.5	18.1
695	560	Allen	692½	+ 1½	0.9	16.6
235½	208½	Aztec	227½	+ 1½	0.9	-
173	148	Bredex Herbert	148	-	9.8	7.1
382½	295	Blick	348	-	5.0	10.4
457½	374½	Brentnwood	377½	-	5.4	15.1
144½	94	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	107½	-	5.4	4.3
149½	127½	CML Micro	130½	-	5.8	9.2
99½	31½	Chemnet Hldgs	39½	-	4.8	13.7
49½	33½	Chloride	43½	-	3.9	17.2
72½	54	Clayhithe	65½	- 2	6.6	7.7
203	162½	Cmbridge	202½	-	2.5	17.6
697½	447½	Data Sc Syst	667½	- 2½	6.6	28.2
388½	322½	Delta†	349½	+ 1	5.7	19.3
342½	255	Dowmor†	331	-	4.2	15.4
95½	80½	Dowding Mills	91	-	4.6	16.6
308	220	Dtech	235	+ 12	0.9	26.1
4136½	3316½	Electrocm 'B'	3716½	- 12½	2.7	-
274	234½	Emess	249	-	2.1	18.4
3268½	1771½	Ericsson 'B'	2818½	+ 19½	1.0	-
2½	1½	Exchequer†	1½	-	8.7	44.6
880	680	Electrocm	757½	+ 37½	1.1	31.5
44½	42½	Booth Inds	42½	-	-	-
208	157	Bramley	198	-	4.3	9.8
152	98	Bridon	98	-	5.2	17.2
1375½	1189½	Br Aerospace†	1360	+ 9	1.4	20.3
183½	139½	Br Blood	159½	- 1½	7.8	8.5
141	111½	Brooks Tool	113½	-	3.3	7.3
21	15	Cmbrdge Sc	16	-	3.8	12.2
135	118½	Ind Control	126	+ 3	3.3	14.5
26	17	Inhale	17	-	6.5	15.1
115	98½	Holdg	113½	-	3.5	14.2
336	296	Maurice Sin	307½	+ 6	2.5	17.6
298	276	Cycle Elcom	285	-	2.1	22.4
619½	551½	Oldham	601½	+ 2	2.1	-
485	337½	Orbcat (A)	480	-	2.5	17.1
185	139½	Comcentric	142	+ ½	6.1	10.6
230	189	David Brown	210½	-	4.7	12.5
338	288	ESS	348	-	5.0	12.6
17½	8½	Elcon	17½	-	1.8	-
75½	60½	Elcotel (SI)	68½	-	5.8	8.9
697½	595	Equiplant	618	+ 3	2.7	22.4
41	31½	Filtronic	36½	-	3.0	10.4
172½	141½	Wyko	150	-	5.3	12.5
154½	119½	Young (H)	135½	-	5.3	11.7

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

140	120	Advanti	130½	-	7.5	18.4
197	168	Airflow Stream	195	-	5.1	8.4
757	669	Avon Rubber	710	-	3.4	13.7
107	87	Bamford	104½	-	3.4	-
270	227½	Bestpac	262½	-	3.4	-
167	141	Boustead†	164	-	7.6	18.8
707	557½	First Tech	666½	-	1.8	18.8
1495½	910	GKN	1401½	- 4	3.4	-
3859½	3055½	Glynwed Int	3512½	+ 6½	3.4	-
583½	507½	Henlys†	507½	-	3.7	12.0
1975½	1540½	Hunting Motor	1888½	+ 76½	0.4	-
407½	344½	Laird	386½	+ 8½	4.2	11.1
229	186	Lucas Varity	204½	+ 8½	4.8	15.4
1725½	1475	Lex Service	1725½	-	5.8	7.8
172½	157½	Qualter	161½	+ 1	4.6	11.9
178	144	T & N	147½	- 3	5.2	-
339½	277½	Trinity Hidgs	329	-	3.2	16.7

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

559½	454	AB Food	529	+ 3	2.2	17.4
311½	227½	Acatos & Hutcht	305	+ 2½	4.1	14.1
459	417	Albert Fisher	44	-	10.7	10.7
392	275	Banks (S C)	301	-	4.7	14.2
466	325	Bass (AGI)	383½	-	2.8	20.6
43	30	Bessnes Group	38	-	3.5	9.5
402	320	Booker	328½	-	3.5	-
31½	20½	Bortwick	29	-	5.6	36.7
234	95	CPL Aromas	97½	- 2½	6.5	4.8
5695	4845	Cadbury Schwpp	5345½	- 1	4.2	14.6
987	67½	Canadian Pacfc	94½	-	-	6.6
325	305	Cans Milling	323½	-	4.1	10.4
81½	60	Cavaghant	71½	-	6.5	-
2429	2020½	Cranswick	2425½	+ 2½	4.5	14.2
95	75½	Daisy Divrsf Group	95½	-	5.3	11.0
363½	321½	Dalgety†	344½	+ 4	8.0	30.0
459½	337	Daniels St	405	-	0.8	30.8
3037½	2535½	Detmor	3017	+ 3½	3.5	22.2
482	434½	Dwek (Isaac)	462	-	3.5	20.5
3009½	241	Manrs Ashby	2501	-	3.8	12.5
41½	30	Aberjaona	35½	-	6.3	6.8
3½	3	Ennis	3	-	-	32.7
39½	21½	Gkll Int	29	+ ½	-	-
624½	547½	Fannaccrnes	564½	- 4	2.0	17.9
5½	4½	Fremaco Hds	4½	-	-	-
268½	225	Gardenwrld	225	- ½	5.2	12.1
6½	4½	Gaustaad Grp	6½	-	-	4.8
65	55	Ranfurd Mdnl	63	-	-	-
54½	31½	Ransomes	36	-	4.8	8.8
74½	56½	Record	69	-	6.8	11.5
141	111½	Smedle Tool	113½	-	3.3	7.3
21½	16	Spirax	16	-	3.8	12.2
72	57½	Bellbrnght	69	-	4.3	10.3
208½	187½	Castle Eng	198½	-	6.3	10.3
297½	252½	Coatings	288	+ 6½	2.2	16.2
135	105	Chamblin Hill	135	-	5.6	12.2
286	276	Cmbrdge	280	-	2.1	22.4
378	274	Cycle Elcom	335	-	2.1	22.4
619½	551½	Dobbins	601½	+ 2	2.1	-
485	337½	Dobson (A)	480	-	2.5	17.1
185	139½	Comcentric	142	+ ½	6.1	10.6
230	189	David Brown	210½	-	4.7	12.5
338	288	ESS	348	-	5.0	12.6
17½	8½	Elcon	17½	-	1.8	-
75½	60½

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

For AIB see Govett (John)

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01203 653 231

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
General Acc	721.90	767.20	+ 2.90	2.55
General Inc	587.90	625.70	+ 2.40	2.55
UK Growth Acc	500.20	532.20	+ 2.70	2.47
UK Growth Inc	423.80	344.50	+ 1.70	2.47
Higher Inc Acc	882.00	948.00	+ 3.20	3.85
Higher Inc Inc	475.20	505.60	+ 1.70	3.85
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	213.50	225.50	– 0.30	5.61
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	91.24	96.97	– 0.15	5.61
Nth America	945.40	982.50	+ 7.50	
Europe	389.70	414.60	+ 0.80	0.33
Pacific	160.10	165.40	+ 0.70	
Property Shares	60.45	64.46	+ 0.35	2.08
UK Emerging Cos	71.49	77.27	+ 0.07	1.25
UK Growth	58.12	59.74†	+ 0.33	1.55
Abrd World Pool #	84.67	85.57	+ 0.25	2.87
Ethical	80.42	83.63	+ 0.05	2.11
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	49.94	49.96†	+ 0.02	7.42

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0171 256 5868

Rendil Property #	99.36	105.70†		5.37

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 958

Amity Income	98.75	102.65†	+ 0.45	1.97
Income Builder Inc	85.15	90.58	+ 0.23	3.86

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
IFA dlg: 01763 610 366 Client dlg: 01763 514 514

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	302.10	322.90†	+ 2.50	2.86
Capital	343.30	366.70†	+ 3.60	4.08
Balanced	868.20	947.30	+ 6.70	2.57
Accumulator	1712.00	1830.00	+13.00	1.70
Income Trusts				
Advanced Income	68.39	72.97†	+ 0.77	2.22
High Income	488.70	522.40†	+ 3.60	4.08
Equity Income	276.40	295.40	+ 1.80	3.76
High Yield	300.30	321.00	+ 2.10	3.74
Gilt Securities	33.95	36.93†	– 0.78	8.09
International Trusts				
Adv† Spec Sits	230.50	245.90†	+ 4.70	0.05
European Growth	58.36	62.42†	+ 0.95	0.05
International	189.30	202.30†	+ 2.00	0.11
Japan	132.90	163.40	– 1.80	
Pacific	376.90	402.90	+ 0.20	
Sales of America	614.80	654.70	+18.30	0.12
Wrldw Accel Val	55.23	59.04†	+ 0.40	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Allied Value	686.60	733.90	+ 4.50	1.98
Dlmr & Gdn	53.20	56.92†	+ 0.22	3.73
Smaller Cos	214.60	229.50	+ 0.20	1.00
2nd Smaller Cos	203.60	217.80†	+ 0.70	0.85
Recovery	178.00	190.20	+ 0.60	1.48
Mkt Min & Cdty	154.10	164.90	+ 0.10	0.19
Oseas Earnings	424.00	485.30†	+ 3.60	1.00
Technology	221.00	236.30	+ 7.40	..
UK Special Sits	620.80	663.60†	+ 2.50	0.94

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01293 525 911

Colrcst Opt Pens	122.80	127.50		
Fidelis Pens Pens	73.55	76.41		

BS+THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 600 0033

Capital	91.32	97.15	+ 0.61	0.77
International	68.26	72.62		

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242

America	347.30	370.70	+ 3.30	
Bond	116.50	122.60†	–	6.97
Brit Smlr Cos	119.40	127.00	+ 0.20	1.77
Conv & Gen #	70.10	74.57	+ 0.40	5.18
Emerging	305.90	321.00	+ 3.70	0.10
Euro Smlr Cos	124.50	132.70	– 0.20	0.31
Income Gwth	395.10	420.30†	+ 5.30	4.45
Japan	267.40	284.50	– 0.60	
Pacific	105.20	110.70	+ 1.10	0.57
Pacific Basin	112.30	120.50	+ 0.90	0.54
UK Smaller Cos	59.94	63.77	+ 0.29	1.23
Japan Fd	502.70	517.80	– 5.50	
Mngd Fd	268.70	271.80†	+ 1.40	2.72

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0171 489 8673

Gilt & Oseas	390.40	412.90		0.86
Capital Gwth	135.50	147.20		2.84
Wrldw Oppo	229.30	242.60		0.89

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
0181 392 4000

Balanced Trusts				
Grwth & Inc Inc	458.00	487.20	+ 2.30	2.08
European Bd Inc	97.59	101.00	+ 0.20	5.87
Exempt	89.97	95.72	+ 0.49	2.55
500	522.70	562.00†	+ 0.80	1.97
Gwthcst	347.40	369.60†	+ 1.60	2.15
Property	258.10	276.80		5.44
Trustee	244.70	260.30	+ 1.50	2.19
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.10	100.10†		5.44
Distribution qtly #	117.20	117.80	+ 0.20	5.01
Exec Income #	145.80	156.80†	+ 0.60	4.52
Gilt & Fxd Int	58.78	60.60†	+ 0.11	7.78
Income #	628.40	670.30	+ 3.20	4.49
Income Builder #	72.64	77.36†	+ 0.24	5.15
Intl Income	73.93	78.64	+ 0.58	2.02
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	152.50	162.30	+ 0.80	2.00
FTSE 100	105.60	115.40	+ 0.80	2.44
Income	195.30	197.70	+ 0.40	4.24
Recovery	537.50	568.90†	+ 2.90	3.19
Smlr Cos Inc	62.00	66.13	+ 0.11	2.04
Special Sits	437.10	465.00	+ 2.20	1.86
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	184.80	195.60	+ 2.80	0.23
F East Gwth Acc	269.70	288.20	+ 1.50	0.11
Far East Gwth	171.60	182.60	+ 0.90	0.11
Euro Gwth Inc	199.90	217.50	+ 1.60	2.63
-do- Accum	217.40	230.10	+ 1.90	0.63
Japan	108.70	115.10†	+ 1.30	
-do- Accum	110.00	116.40	– 1.30	
Japan Spec Sits	51.39	54.44	– 0.91	
Worldwide	197.50	209.60	+ 1.10	0.65

BARING FUND MANGERS LTD
01771 214 1004

American Growth	138.30	147.10	+ 2.10	..
Amer Smlr Cos	133.00	142.60	+ 4.90	..
Convertibles	61.71	65.49†	+ 0.05	4.40
Eastern	279.30	299.50	+ 2.60	0.30
Equity Income #	106.50	113.90†	+ 0.30	4.10
European Growth	335.30	419.70	+ 2.90	0.60
Europe	402.90	427.30	+ 2.00	0.47
German Growth	92.04	98.50	+ 0.49	0.50
Global Bond	70.11	73.74	+ 0.16	6.20
Global Growth	144.90	153.90	+ 1.00	0.40
Japan Growth	195.50	198.30	– 2.30	
Japan Smaller	106.20	112.50	– 2.10	
Pacific Tiger	49.26	53.31	+ 0.62	
Portfolio	153.00	163.20†	+ 0.40	2.00
-do- Accm	291.70	311.10	+ 0.60	2.00
UK Growth	115.60	124.10		3.00
UK Smaller Cos	104.90	113.90	– 0.80	1.90
Select Managers	90.74	97.42†	+ 0.43	1.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3000

Intl Gwth Port Inc	91.97	97.73		
Special Opps Inc	68.14	70.36		

BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD
0141 223 6020

Balanced Growth	156.80	165.97†	+ 1.14	1.45
-do- Accum	183.60	194.29	+ 1.33	1.45
Smaller Cos	172.25	182.37	+ 0.35	0.40
Higher Yield #	88.15	93.69†	+ 0.33	3.99
American Gth Inc	105.99	112.16	+ 2.01	0.50
European Growth	174.30	184.44†	+ 3.22	
-do- Accum	177.98	188.34	+ 3.29	
Mngd Platfo Inc	65.41	68.61†	+ 0.47	1.27
-do- Accum	67.91	71.15	+ 0.49	1.27
Int Spec Opps	174.31	184.45	+ 2.03	
Pacific Gth	148.57	155.10	+ 7.05	
UK General #	104.62	110.92	+ 0.77	2.90
-do- Accum #	113.74	120.56	+ 0.84	2.90
Japan Acc	45.29	47.93	– 0.36	
Gilt & Fxed Int #	160.28	163.92†		8.17

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 480 7216

Short Dated Gilt	63.92	64.74†	– 0.05	9.64

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5080

Emerald	197.00	207.30	+ 1.30	1.90
UK Growth	225.30	237.10	+ 1.80	2.23
UK Income	155.70	163.90†	+ 0.90	4.30

CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD
01707 892 100

Can Dev Dist	242.50	256.90	+ 1.00	1.54
-do- Income Dist	134.20	142.30	+ 0.30	3.51
-do- Accm	439.40	465.70	+ 0.70	3.51
Gilt & Fxd Int	40.58	42.64	– 0.02	6.38
Remote Units	274.00	290.50	+ 1.50	2.00
Bond	173.50	184.50	+ 0.20	6.80
Intl Growth	239.70	245.10	+ 1.10	0.19
North American	366.40	388.30	+ 5.70	0.09
Far East	303.50	323.60	+ 3.80	0.60
UK Smaller Cos	247.50	264.70	+ 0.90	1.08
European	99.15	105.40	+ 0.40	0.48
Japanese Growth	35.58	37.71	– 0.47	
High Income	232.10	246.10	+ 0.50	4.10

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455

American & Gen	321.70	255.10†	+ 3.40	..
European Inc	102.70	109.10	+ 0.20	0.37
Smaller Cos (4-1)	114.20	121.50†	+ 0.20	1.36
Growth	164.90	175.20†	+ 1.80	1.09
Income & Growth #	495.80	527.50	+ 2.60	3.60
-do- Accm #	788.10	838.70	+ 4.00	3.60
Japan & Gen	52.33	55.54†	– 0.43	..
Nutcracker Gwth	612.70	613.20†	+ 7.00	1.77
-do- Accm	615.81	616.47	+ 8.09	1.77
Special Sits	136.50	145.30	+ 1.30	1.98
High Yield	216.11	218.61	+ 7.00	4.04

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0700

Compound Portfolio	106.03	113.08	+ 0.31	2.17
Continental Portfolio	128.20	136.67	+ 2.52	1.05
Income Portfolio	148.77	158.69†	+ 0.21	0.58
Japanese Portfolio	92.29	98.42†	– 0.03	7.25
Opportunities Portfolio	83.86	89.46†	– 0.50	..

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Pacific Portfolio	155.52	167.23	+ 1.12	0.79
UK Equity	102.53	109.56†	+ 0.45	3.24
UK Equity & Bd	80.51	84.12	+ 0.01	5.26
UK Inter Cos	84.36	90.14†	+ 0.09	1.62

CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS
0171 588 1815

Inv Fd Inc	818.66	859.00	+11.77	4.15
Inv Fd Acc	816.66	859.00	+11.77	..
Fxd Int Sec Inc	155.60	166.22	+ 0.14	9.16
Fxd Int Sec Acc	155.60	166.22	+ 0.14	..

CDF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

Investment Inc	802.50	814.62	– 6.98	4.25
Investment Acc	837.93	838.41	+ 5.76	..
Fixed Int Inc	125.86	126.45	– 2.74	9.17
Fixed Int Acc	239.81	240.57	+ 0.30	..

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
01171 407 5966

Beckman Intl	84.51	89.10		5.62
Barz Bis-Eam	37.98	41.36		
Accss Ethical Tst	163.50	163.18		0.44
City Fin Assets	81.43	85.51†	+ 0.27	1.60
City Fin Inc	87.22	91.89		0.14
Prtns Hse Cap	320.23	340.78	+ 3.11	2.33
Buckley Wrld Gnth	139.93	148.32†		
J Rec Inv/Gth Inc	57.63	60.73		3.42
Shaw Utilities	64.92	68.44	+ 0.36	8.67

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300
Emerging Markets — 58.85 — 63.50 — + 0.64

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0345 772 233

American Gwth	78.58	83.60	+ 1.58	..
Dragon Growth	69.40	74.22	+ 0.42	0.44
Equity High Inc	97.39	103.65†	– 1.13	3.78
-do- Accss	142.77	151.97	– 1.66	3.78
Extra Income Inc	26.50	27.89†	+ 0.02	7.25
Extra Income Acc	29.99	31.57	+ 0.03	7.25
European Gwth	68.89	70.78	+ 0.24	0.54
Emerging	30.69	33.03	+ 0.04	..
Financial Equity	114.89	121.36	+ 0.65	2.86
Japan Growth	37.01	39.12	– 0.33	..
PolDgree Gwth	67.78	71.72	– 0.67	2.17
Pref Sits Cos Inc	41.26	43.66	+ 0.08	7.15
-do- Accss	43.99	46.55	+ 0.07	7.15
International Inc #	28.77	31.57	+ 0.07	5.62
Special Sits	50.21	53.09	+ 0.24	2.62
UK & Overseas	61.56	65.59	+ 0.48	0.70

COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD
01634 606 000

Balanced	73.95	77.03	+ 0.35	4.01
Capital	89.14	92.85	+ 0.34	3.37
High Income	52.51	54.68	+ 0.06	6.77
Top 50	61.16	63.70	+ 0.48	2.58

COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD
0181 686 9818

PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	201.71	210.14†	+ 0.49	4.37
Long Gilt	43.35	45.14†	– 0.09	6.26
Monthly Inc Plus	51.06	53.19†	+ 0.01	8.45
Preference Shrs	48.21	50.22†	– 0.01	7.78
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	139.11	156.39†	+ 3.90	5.46
Managed Fund	77.99	81.25†	+ 0.39	2.73
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	57.04	59.42†	+ 0.02	1.60
-do- Accm	68.21	71.06†	+ 0.02	1.60
UK & General	105.84	110.26†	+ 0.51	2.74
-do- Accm	140.31	146.17†	+ 0.68	2.74
UK Growth	211.13	219.85†	+ 0.98	1.28
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	206.50	234.92†	+ 1.11	0.62
Far Eastern Gnth	122.41	128.57†	+ 0.49	0.06
Global Bond	72.74	75.78†	+ 0.04	6.54
Japan Growth	91.06	94.86†	– 0.53	..
North Amer Gwth	249.99	260.43†	+ 4.17	..
Oriental Growth	81.26	84.68†	+ 0.75	0.27
Worldwide Growth	73.65	76.71†	+ 0.38	..
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.51	91.51†	+ 0.03	5.55
Homemaster Fund	92.50	98.42	+ 0.36	2.19
Owner Fund	162.05	172.41	+ 0.94	2.09

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
01171 407 5966

Consistent UT	37.09	39.65	....	3.98

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 358

Growth	194.80	207.20	+ 0.80	1.78
Income	75.40	80.21		4.40
European	79.20	84.25	+ 0.67	0.60
Recovery	184.40	196.20†	+ 0.70	2.62

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
0171 265 0484

Equity Dist	1082.90	1079.00		3.23

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 680 370

Fellowship Tst	118.20	123.60†	+ 0.20	1.10
Income #	300.90	320.10	+ 1.40	4.36
-do- Accm #	803.40	854.60	+ 3.60	4.36
Smaller Cos	241.40	256.80	+ 1.10	0.93
Special Sits	300.60	320.00	+ 1.40	0.93
Gilt Portfolio	105.60	112.30	+ 0.70	1.27
High Inc Port #	97.03	92.58	+ 0.41	4.51

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
0171 470 1634

Global Sm Cos	1617.70	1651.50	..	2.77
UK Small Cos	2295.40	2393.40	..	

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
0171 377 6819

Disc Inc	240.00	253.50		3.14

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
01242 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	183.60	195.30	+ 1.10	1.85
UK High Inc Inc	182.40	204.60	+ 0.80	3.48
-do- Accm	283.70	300.50	+ 1.10	3.48
UK Pref & Fxd Inc	59.57	63.27	+ 0.05	7.65
Extra Income Inc	108.30	115.20†	+ 0.70	0.87
UK Smlr Cos #	76.47	81.35	+ 0.25	0.98
Extra Income Inc	49.82	53.00	+ 0.07	6.72

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 099 526

Convertibles #	23.16	24.61†	+ 0.03	5.69
Enterprise	114.00	120.80	+ 0.39	2.07
Equity Income #	149.60	157.30†	+ 0.29	3.80
European	67.44	71.33	+ 0.75	
Financial	60.98	64.79	+ 0.56	1.54
Growth & Inc #	362.70	321.60	+ 1.70	2.72
High Dist #	188.30	200.10	+ 0.70	4.25
International	431.30	458.30	+ 3.10	0.22
Int Cap Inc	108.40	115.70†	+ 0.90	2.33
Latin American	38.19	38.45	+ 0.49	
Pacific	80.97	86.03	+ 0.53	
Prof High Inc	22.63	23.99†	+ 0.01	7.50
Tokyo	174.00	184.80	– 2.80	
UK Smaller Cos	260.00	276.30	– 0.20	1.09
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
Jap Smlr Co	298.40	307.00†	– 3.10	
Nth Amer	428.60	455.20	+ 6.90	0.63
UK Inc & Gth	265.60	282.70†	+ 1.00	2.61

ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD
01171 242 0242

BH Dresdner Dips	127.02	135.85	+ 3.92	1.03
Growth Acc	284.97	302.64	– 2.97	0.63
Income	619.38	659.64	– 0.08	6.02

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
01171 373 7281

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■ VISUAL ART 1

Ranging from the characteristically provocative work of the enfant terrible Damien Hirst ...



■ VISUAL ART 2

... to Sarah Lucas's disturbing concoctions: the Hayward Gallery shows the best of British sculpture

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ VISUAL ART 3

Recent large paintings by Patrick Caulfield go on show in the Waddington Galleries



■ TOMORROW

Going into the round: curtain up on a bold experiment at the National Theatre

Intimations of a strange mortality

VISUAL ART: At the Hayward, **Richard Cork** inspects the transfiguration of 'everyday stuff'

Shying away from the word "sculpture", the Hayward Gallery's new show nevertheless teems with physical objects. Whether scavenged in a skip or bought at a supermarket, made from scratch or cast from life, these bits and pieces of the late 20th century punctuate their wide, white spaces with anxiety, wit, irony, pleasure, fear and wonder. The survey's dour title, *Material Culture*, strikes a forbidding note. But the selected artists ensure that the experiences on offer here escape from sobriety into a strange and unpredictable world.

The 45 participants all work in Britain, and their contributions range in date from the late 1970s to 1996. If it had been a strictly chronological affair, the show would start in earnest with the generation responsible for the so-called New Sculpture of the early 1980s. But Tony Cragg, Richard Deacon, Bill Woodrow and their contemporaries are scattered among younger artists. So this is a freewheeling exhibition that defies tight categories and encourages us to look afresh at even the most familiar individuals.

The first room is certainly provocative. Dangling from the ceiling is a colossal, swollen lump of cast iron by Antony Gormley. Called *Still Falling*, it seems utterly at variance with the thousands of clay figurines who crowded the gallery floor when he last showed at the Hayward. But *Still Falling* is a product of the same singleminded involvement with the human figure. A mould of the artist's body provided the springboard, and he then took a second mould measured at a distance from the first. The outcome is mysterious, oddly bloated, and more akin to an expanded vegetable than a male nude.

In this respect, it yields surprising connections with the otherwise very different work by Damien Hirst on a neighbouring wall. Its title, *The Lovers: (Spontaneous, Committed, Detached, Compromising)* suggests something freighted with messy, conflicting emotions. Instead, Hirst presents four cabinets with clinical precision, each containing cows' organs in jars of different sizes. Although far less exposed and alarming than his *Mother and Child Divided* at the Tate's Turner Prize show, the jars' contents still have the ability to disturb.

If Hirst and Gormley invite us to think about the body's physicality, Anish Kapoor pushes solid form to the edge of dissolution. His *Untitled Mirror*, gleaming at the far end of the first room, is a vast, concave, stainless-steel dish. Highly polished, it initially provides upside-down reflections of the gallery. As I approached, though, my body gradually filled the mirror with darkness. Peering further in still, I found a normal reflection at last. But the moment of physical extinction lingers in my memory, and in that respect it turns out to have unexpected links with *Is Suicide Genetic?*, Sarah Lucas's nearby exhibit.

Her scorched and disintegrating armchair testifies to a disaster, and the work's gruesome title indicates that self-inflicted death by fire has occurred. But a helmet, meticulously constructed from cigarettes, sits on the battered seat. Did its maker once try to combat despair by smoking? Lucas provides no answer, but leaves us in no doubt about the desperate, almost absurd plight of the person whose life is supposedly memorialised.

> "Could these glacial chambers harbour corpses?"

Throughout, the appearance and disappearance of the human body is a major theme. In the long downstairs space, the 21 glass plates comprising Christine Borland's *"From life", Berlin* are ranged around the walls. Gradually traces of dust become visible on the glass. And with the help of the gallery's lighting, we discover faint shapes left by bones from a human skeleton. Their very indistinctness makes them poignant, and the suspicion that they might be forensic evidence gives them a sinister air.

A few of the other exhibits rely on humour: Abigail Lane's *chair* with a blue inkpad seat confronts an image on the wall bearing the imprint of someone's buttocks. Even here, though, the whimsy is countered by a hint that it might be part of an investigative procedure or even a ritual humiliation. The proximity of Borland's exhibit makes this possibility hard to discount, and her glass plates also help to shape how we see Marcus Taylor's perspex units.

Based on the forms of ordinary kitchen fridges, these luminous white oblongs should be transparent. But Taylor has sanded their surfaces so that the interiors are cloudy. The difficulty of deciding what they might contain lends them a sense of menace. Could these glacial chambers harbour corpses?

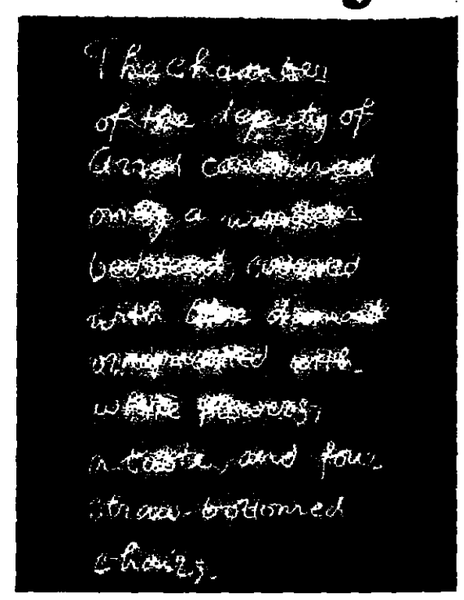
The longer we spend in this stimulating show, the more we discover links between works displayed in different rooms as well. The frustration of examining Taylor's perspex containers is doubled when we arrive at Julian Opie's *D/889-E*. Made of painted wood, this plain white shed provides views of its interior through windows set in the sides. But Opie supplies no entrance. We are left walking round his enigmatic structure, thwarted by its refusal to fulfil an architectural role and let us step inside.

Upstairs, by contrast, Shirazeh Houshiary does allow us to explore the interior of her monumental *Isthmus*. Seen from the outside, this matt-black megalith of aluminium seems an exercise in minimalist severity. A slit in the side allows us to squeeze through, gaining access to a tall, narrow space which might easily have been claustrophobic. By lining it with polished copper, though, Houshiary transforms the lofty vault into a warm and reassuring enclosure.

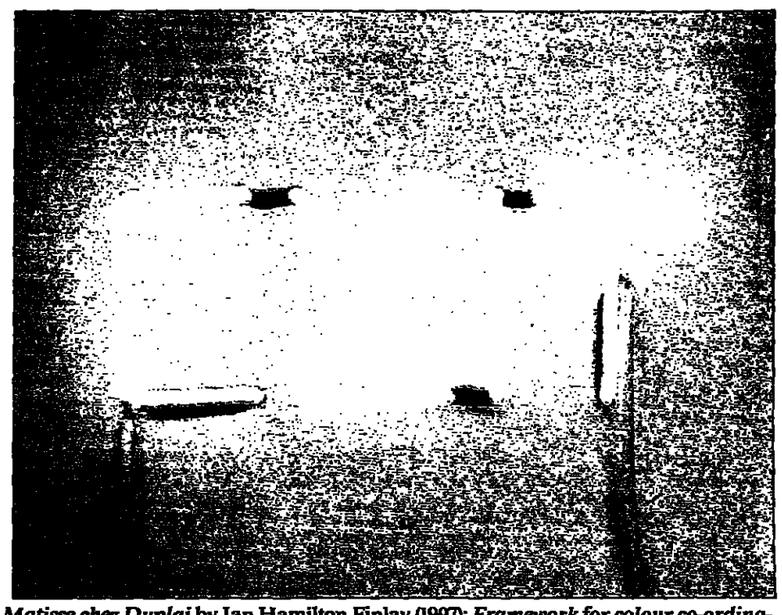
But *Isthmus* remains exceptional in its willingness to let us penetrate the object. Most of the works at the Hayward issue no such invitation. They keep their distance and ask to be inspected, not occupied. Some, like Richard Deacon's *shelf full of inventive and* sensuous pieces from his superb *Art for Other People* series, look as if they would like to be picked up and fondled. Others, most notably Grenville Davey's austere *(Gold) Table*, take as their starting-point the notion of furnishing a room. But nothing could be mistaken for a functional object.

So although many contributors to the Hayward survey are indebted to Duchamp's pioneering use of the ready-made object, nobody follows his example and leaves it wholly unaltered. Mona Hatoum may have purchased a slotted spoon in a Jerusalem market, but she filled the holes with nuts and bolts that transform a domestic implement into a weapon. The desk-like table used by Rachel Whiteread to make her untitled resin block has been discarded, leaving only her luminous cast of the space beneath it.









Clockwise from top left: *Tix 3* by Cerith Wyn Evan (1996); *Matisse chez Duplai* by Ian Hamilton Finlay (1997); *Framework for colour co-ordination for building purposes* by Douglas Gordon and Simon Patterson (1992-97); *Tract (from Boost to Wham)* by Richard Wentworth (1993)

But most of her fellow-exhibitors retain their starting-point, such as the clapped-out twin-tub that provided Bill Woodrow with the metal to make the guitar attached so brazenly to its surface. Soon after finding this unwanted washing machine in a London street, he explained that "any material has a potential for manipulation, to be made into something other than its active form at the time you find it". And this "something other" gives the best work in this exhibition its consistent sense of challenge and resourcefulness, discovering an unexpected poetry in what Woodrow described as "everyday stuff".

● Material Culture *at the Hayward Gallery (0171-261 0127) until May 18*

SALEEM ARIF'S show consists of two distinct groups of work; the large, solid wall pieces set up a perpetual play between two and three dimensions, while the framed watercolours and gouaches show a looser, more fluid weight. The swirling solidity of the deep crusted larger pieces, with the image cut out in negative relief, makes it impossible to tell where image begins and ends. *Metamorphosis* gains an almost metallic quality from opaque paint mixed with sand. The framed works are different; lyrical, joyous, Modernist and less like iconic objects .

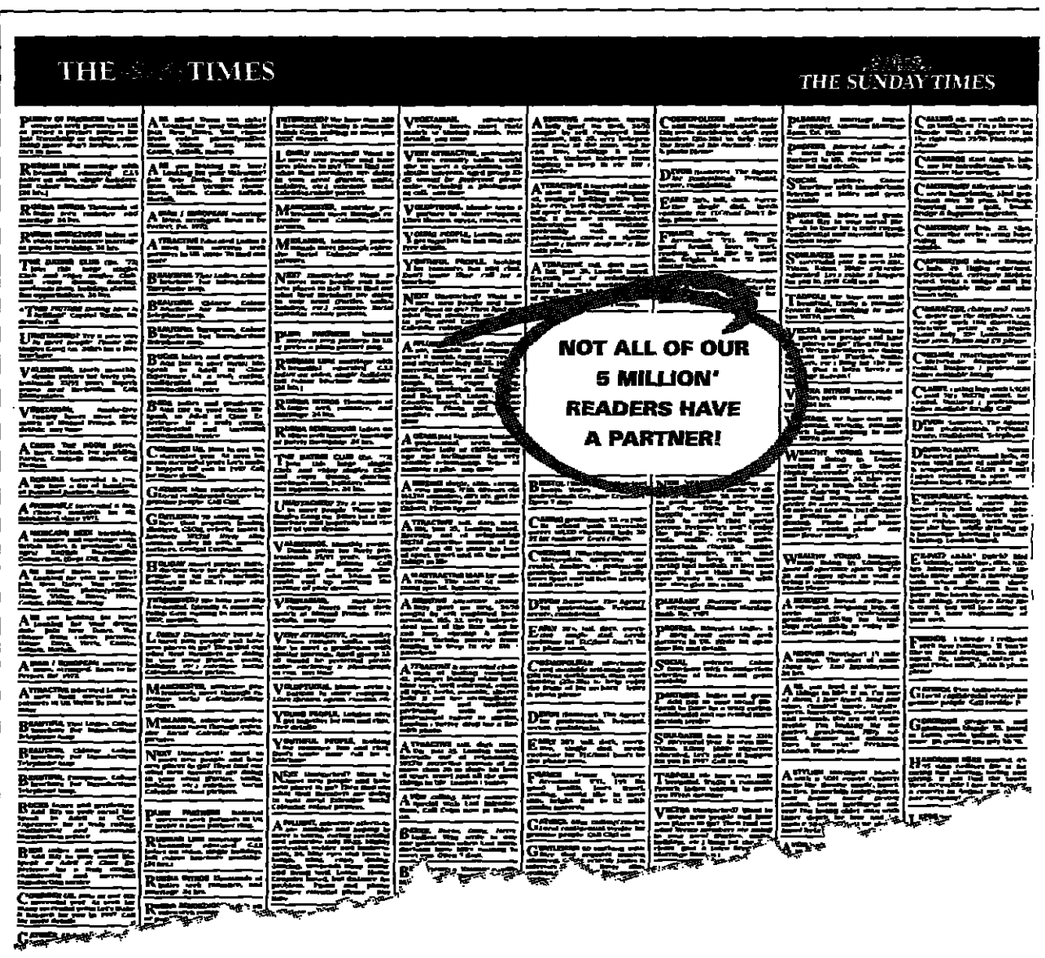
Saleem Arif's Gardens of grace *is at A. R. K. S Gallery, 16 North Audley Street, London WIY IWE (0171-491 4600) until April 26*

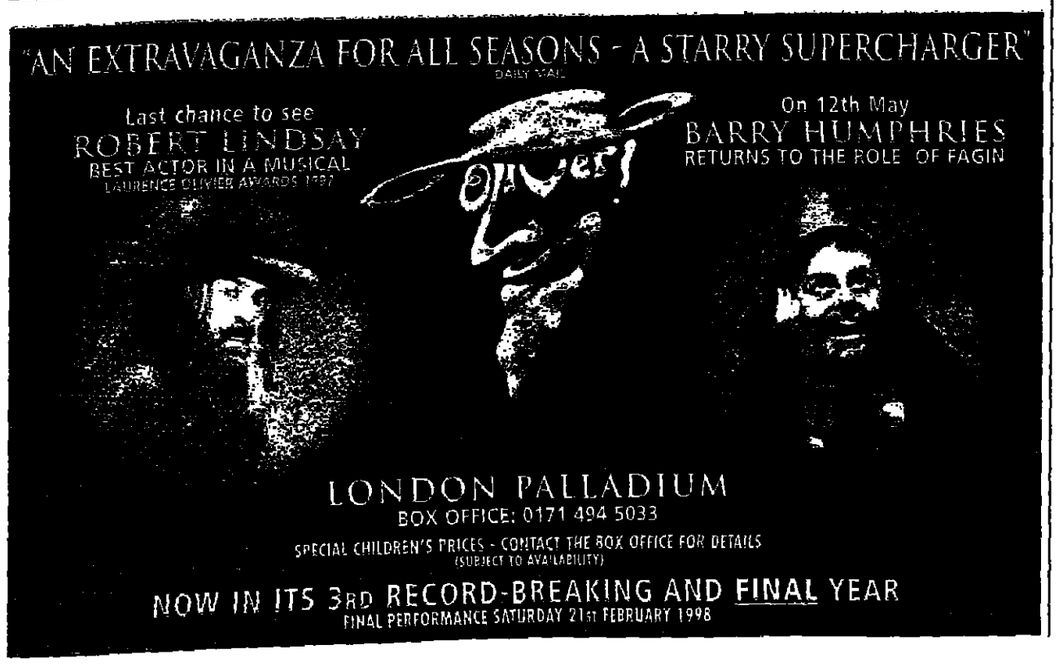
AROUND THE GALLERIES

☐ THE rare opportunity to see **Patrick Caulfield**'s recent large paintings shows that they carry a more all-over design. It is almost as if the earlier painted illusions of place and atmosphere had been replaced by the shorthand of the designer. It is a code where lights return to their principal role and throw off a perfect circular glow. Exit signs come forward out of the gloom. Instead of slotting elaborately rendered slices of illusionistic life together, the place turns into a vaguely grasped pattern of suggestion. Every now and then illusionistically painted details — a fully flowering Busy Lizzie, a few slices of best steak or a pen slotted into a desk pen-holder — are given the full all-round Caulfield painterly treatment and deliberately arranged as if off centre on a table top. His paintings have always carried a powerful pull between real life and still-life, but the development here is surely to do with sight. The place has become less of a picture and is more about the sensation of being there, in the dark, content that the outside world is temporarily excluded.

Patrick Caulfield's New Paintings *is at Waddington Galleries, 11 Cork Street, London WIX 2LT (0171-437 8611) until April 26*

SACHA CRADDOCK





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It's the reel thing: the Dubliners come to Liverpool

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First night for a Flaubert play finished by Paul Godfrey

VENUE: At the Royal Exchange, Manchester

THE TIMES ARTS



THEATRE 1

Language Roulette **at the Gate explores dark secrets among friends in Belfast**



THEATRE 2

Alan Howard delivers *Kings*, Christopher Logue's thrilling version of the *Iliad*

THEATRE: Daragh Carville's secretive Belfast play; plus the *Iliad* revisited

MARILYN KINGWILL



The word games people play: Belfast friends Peter Ballance, Thomas Lappin and Maria Connolly share a pint

No end to hostilities

Language Roulette
Bush

Something nasty has happened in the past. A few of the characters know it, the audience soon begins to realise it. But precisely what is this awful secret, and how will X, Y and Z react when they discover it? It is a situation that comes with built-in tension, which is presumably why I have encountered it pretty often in the theatre. All the dramatist need do is keep his people warily circling the unsayable — and, lo, a play is born.

But of course the play may be *Oedipus Rex* and may be Daragh Carville's *Language Roulette*, which is not exactly Sophoclean in its scope and power. It is set in Belfast in 1994, "during the ceasefire", but though that happy period is pointedly mentioned by the characters, it does not seem relevant to their lives or to the sad secret some of them share. Personal treachery, not the fate of a community, is what concerns Carville.

That would be fine if we were made to feel that the emotional stakes were high. But the return of Patrick Lennox's nervous, affable Joseph to his native Belfast after years on the Continent begins a bit flatly. One friend, Alan McKee's Colm, seems welcoming. Another, Peter Ballance's Tim, is less so. In fact, he grimly says something to the effect that it's going to be a dark night tonight, boys. At this my spirits rose somewhat. Maybe men with "love" and "hate" tattooed on their knuckles would pop up from the floor to give Joseph the sort of grilling Stanley gets in Pinter's *Birthday Party*? But no.

Instead the old friends, reinforced by a couple of hangers-on and Colm's estranged wife, move from living-room to what, though Terry Loane's set makes no concessions to the switch, is now the local pub. Here, a variant dramatic formula comes into play. Under the influence of booze, and the odd pill, tongues begin to loosen. The big secret turns out to be — but I suppose I had better not give away Carville's denouement, though it seems neither very awesome nor very surprising.

The dialogue is sprightly and the actors, especially Ballance's angry Tim and McKee's big soft Colm, are a credit to their company, the Belfast-based Tinderbox Theatre. Yet despite the troupe's name, the heat generated is never intense. I was most gripped when the characters were playing word-games over their beer, or describing the sly, sadistic rules of "language roulette" itself; but not, I fear, gripped a lot.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Of loutish Greeks

Kings
Tricycle

Books I and II of the *Iliad* are the second chunk of Homer's 15,000-line epic to be re-fashioned into English by Christopher Logue. "It's not at all a literal translation," he once told me, "though nearly everything is there. Think of it as a contemporary re-living." Hence the references to helicopters and to Rommel after El Alamein. Hence also, since Logue is a poet, the immediacy of his language, which allows those of us who know no more Ancient Greek than the words *hoi polloi* to gain a better sense of the original excitement than from the prose of E.V. Rieu in the Penguin Classics.

It is nearly 20 years since Alan Howard first spoke Logue's version of a later episode in the battle for Troy and now his *Kings*, following the same route from broadcast to theatre, gives us the opening events. Not as far back as the abduction of Helen, but the quarrel between Achilles and Agamemnon over a slave-girl. Then briefly up to Olympus, and back to earth in time to catch the Greeks rushing back to their ships, only to be persuaded to return to the fight. Odysseus publicly whips Thersites for daring to utter what we, though not Homer, would call a democratic protest, and the performance breaks off just before battle commences.

Logue himself introduces Howard's 90-minute performance and then sits at a side-table following the text, speaking plummily for old Nestor. Howard begins perched upon a half-chair, half-barstool, casually dressed and at ease. His voice, eloquent and nobly versatile, can sound too carefully modulated in dramatic performance, but for the Logue Homer he resurrects the skills of the storyteller, playing Greeks and gods (a comically troubled Zeus) or narrator with attractive modulations of tone and the occasional raised eyebrow to point a line.

It is all mind-opening stuff, steadily revealing the characters in this portion of the epic as a thoroughly detestable lot. Thuggish Agamemnon and loathsome Odysseus — why should we be interested in these louts? When Logue makes Odysseus speak contemptuously of democracy (a notion unknown to Homer), he is offering us the clue: such men are dangerous and should be shunned like the plague that only ever kills *hoi polloi* and never, alas, the appalling kings.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Form, flair and frenzy

Ricochet
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Ricochet Dance Company is a dancer-led outfit that commissions work and collaborates with the choreographers it hires. And as its current programme shows, these dancers clearly know what they are doing.

Their one-off appearance at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Saturday night (part of the Spring Loaded festival) offered two new works, one by the hard-working veteran Rosemary Lee, the other by the man of the moment on the independent dance scene, Javier De Frutos. In Lee's case, it was a worthy and enlightening result; with De Frutos, it was a stroke of genius.

Lee's work, *Treading the Night Plain*, is the product of a choreographic research project at Middlesex University. The five dancers, fast becoming one of Britain's strongest ensembles, have the feel of explorers about them. The women are the braver species, straining at the leash to move on while the men provide balance and ballast. At 30 minutes, the work is too long, goaded on by Terry Riley's score (recorded by the Kronos Quartet), but Lee's persuasive recurring images and her well-crafted sense of atmosphere give the work a sympathetic warmth.

De Frutos's new piece may have a rather long-winded title — *All visitors bring happiness, some by coming, some by going* — but there is nothing long-winded about the choreography. It is compressed, impassioned and electrifying.

Stravinsky's *Les Noces* churns up a whirlpool of frenzied physicality. But instead of the traditional male-female bonding at the heart of *Les Noces* (The Wedding), De Frutos conjures up a fierce predatory coupling between two men, so heated that it scorches them and everyone around them.

The 30 minutes of choreography are furious and self-annihilating, like the sex act itself. The two men and three women are felled by the wave of ferocity, and only at the end can they catch their breath. Until then, what they have been doing is killing them, and they don't seem to care.

DEBRA CRAINE

LONDON

THE CRITICS — UP FOR REVIEW: Four theatre critics, including the assessor for *The Times* theatre guide (below), hazard their reputations by tasting their skills at directing. Michael Billington chooses Strindberg's *The Stronger* and *Pinter's The Lover*; James Christopher tackles a new play by Robert Young, *The Shoe Shop of Desire*; Nicholas de Jongh directs Anouilh's *The Traveller Without Luggage*; and Jeremy Kingston goes for Michel Tremblay's *Albertine in Five Times*.
BAC Main House and Studios 1 and 2, Lavender Hill, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Previews tonight and tomorrow. Opens April 10 and 11. Then Tue-Sat; mats Sun, various times. Until August 27

HALLOWEEN NIGHT: Ireland's Rough Magic Company bring the *Four Corners* season to a close with Lynne Parker's production of Declan Hughes's play: In a holiday cottage four uneasy couples wait for their host to appear. Supernatural events ensue.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Previews tonight, 8pm. Opens tomorrow, 7pm. Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Until April 19.

JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET: In the first of three concerts at the Wigmore Hall, the virtuoso pianist offers the Debussy Preludes and Chopin's 24 Preludes. On April 13, Thibaudet accompanies the mezzo-soprano Angelika Kirchschlager, and on April 15 he joins the cellist Truls Mork in chamber music by Brahms, Shostakovich and Rachmaninov.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141). Tonight, 7.30pm. 🅂

ELSEWHERE

CARDIFF: In addition to performances in the Cottesloe, London, the National's production of **Cardiff East** visits the New Theatre. Kenneth Cranham, Karl Johnson, Windsor Davies head the cast of 15 for Peter Gill's play, set on a Welsh housing estate in the 1990s.
New, Park Place (01222 878889). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3pm. 🅂

LIVERPOOL: The Dubliners perform in concert with balladeer **Paddy Reilly**.
Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street (0151-709 3789). Tonight, 7.30pm.

MANCHESTER: Paul Godfrey's **The Candidate**, based on an unfinished comedy by Flaubert. Braham Murray's cast includes Colin Prockter, James Saxon, Ian Pepperell, Tilly Tremaine.
Royal Exchange at Upper Campfield Market (0161-833 9833). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until May 3.

NORWICH: Birmingham Repertory Theatre Company's touring production of Shakespeare's **The Merchant of Venice** is directed by Bill Alexander.
Theatre Royal, Theatre Street 🅂 (01603 630000). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed, Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm. Then **Richmond** 🅂 (0181-940 0088). April 15-19.

OXFORD: An exhibition of 33 **Drawings from the Collection of Filippo Baldinucci**, the 17th-century Florentine art historian who collected and catalogued 5,000 drawings for Cardinal Leopoldo de Medici.
Christ Church Picture Gallery, Christ Church (01865 276172). Opens today, 10.30am. Then Mon-Sat, 10.30am-1pm and 2-4.30pm; Sun, 2-4.30pm. Until June 6.

LONDON GALLERIES

Alan Cristea: Ian McKeever: Colour Etching (0171-439 1868) . . . **British Museum:** Heirs of Rome: *the Shaping of Britain* AD400-900 (0171-636 1555) **Commercial:** Clement Page (0171-247 9747) . . . **Festival Hall:** Edge of Madness: Sarajevo, a City and its People Under Siege (0171-960 4242) **Gallery 27:** Evidence: Recent Jazz Paintings by John Bull (0171-437 2612) **Jill George:** Louise Butler Adams, Rod Judkins, Fraser Taylor: Paintings and Drawings (0171-439 7319) . . . **New Academy:** Jacqueline and Sophia Rizvi (0171-323 4700) **Tate:** Hogarth the Painter (0171-887 8000)

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
🅂 **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

🅂 **ART:** David Haig, Anton Lesser, Mark Williams in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white painting.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. Until October 4.

☐ **BIRDY:** *Northern Exposure* actor Rob Morrow joins Kevin Knight's cast in Naomi Wallace's fascinating version of the William Wharton novel: a psychologically damaged GI (Matthew Wait) believes he is a bird. Or does he?
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

☐ **CIGARETTES AND CHOCOLATE:** An affair, a pregnancy, Bach and a bag lady feature in this stage version of the award-winning radio play by Anthony Minghella.
Man in the Moon, 392 King's Road, SW3 (0171-351 2876). Tue-Sun, 8pm. Until April 26

🅂 **DEATH OF A SALESMAN:** Alun Armstrong plays the hollow man deluded by slogans in competent production of Miller's drama.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Final performances today, 2.15pm and 7.30pm. In rep

☐ **EAST IS EAST.** Second West End showing for Ayub Khan-Din's highly enjoyable family drama, comic and serious, set in 1970s Salford where a Pakistani patriarch vainly tries to bring up his six children according to ancestral tradition.
Royal Court Downstairs (Duke of York's), St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat, 3.30pm. Until April 26.

■ **MARLENE:** Siân Phillips plays (and sings) Dietrich in Pam Gems's attractive stage-bio, with Lou Gish and Billy Mathias. Sean Mathias directs.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 50-45). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed, Sat, 3pm.

☐ **NOISE:** The subject of Alex Jones's new play will be familiar to anyone whose music-mad neighbour has blasted their lives. Teenage newly-weds move into a flat next to a techno maniac. Mark Brickman directs the second play in the Site Specific season.
Soho Theatre at 21 Dean Street, W1 (0171-420 0022). Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until April 26.

☐ **THE SCHOOL FOR WIVES:** Peter Bowles both touching and comic as Moliere's deluded hero. Eric Sykes excellent as his flicker-fingered servant.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE:** Subtitled "The Songs of Leiber and Stoller". Hit Broadway compilation show celebrating a successful songwriting team, responsible for *Hound Dog*, Jailhouse Rock and *Spanish Harlem*.
Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

☐ **WASTE:** Felicity Kendal, Michael Pennington, Denis Quilley in Granville Barker's fascinating drama of the power struggle within a government, complicated by sex.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616). Tonight, 7.30pm. In rep.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Buddy:** Strand (0171-930 8800) . . . ☐ **Grease:** Cambridge (0171-494 5080) . . . 🅂 **An Inspector Calls:** Garrick (0171-494 5085) . . . 🅂 **Jesus Christ Superstar:** Lyceum (0171-656 1807) . . . 🅂 **Miss Saigon:** Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) . . . ☐ **Oliver!:** Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) . . . ☐ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) . . . ☐ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **FEVER PITCH** (15): Football-crazed teacher falls in love. Appealing version of Nick Hornby's book, with Colin Firth, Ruth Gemmell. Director, David Evans.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990-888 990) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

◆ **HARD MEN** (18): Tension among London hitmen. Meretricious British thriller in the Tarantino mould.
ABC Piccadilly (0171-437 3561)

A SELF-MADE HERO (15): Jacques Audiard's captivating film about a bogus Resistance hero in the Second World War, with Matthieu Kassovitz.
Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Rio** (0171-254 6677)

TOKYO FIST (18): Cyberpunk love triangle from Japanese director Shinya Tsukamoto. Not for the squeamish.
ICA Cinema (0171-930 3647)

CURRENT

◆ **DANTE'S PEAK** (12): A volcano threatens Pierce Brosnan and Linda Hamilton. Silly script, good effects.
ABCs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Empire** (0990 888990) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgin: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031)

◆ **JERRY MAGUIRE** (15): A sports PR agent gets a conscience. Enjoyable, if overlong comedy, with Tom Cruise.
Empire (0990 888990) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** 🅂 (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgin: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031)

◆ **SPACE JAM** (U): Sports star Michael Jordan collides with characters from Looney Tunes cartoons.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgin: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE ENGLISH PATIENT** (15): Mapmaking Ralph Fiennes smoulders with passion for Kristin Scott Thomas.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** (0990-888 990) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen on Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen on the Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990-888 990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Warner** (0171-437 4343) **Watermans** (0181-568 1176)

◆ **WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S ROMEO + JULIET** (12): Effervescent contemporary treatment, with Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Barbican** 🅂 (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Notting Hill Coronet** 🅂 (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgin: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

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The Royal Ballet
Tomor, Sat 7.30 **ANASTASIA**
Thur 7.30 (Last Night) **LA BAYADERE**

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TOP: EVERYMAN: Tom't 7.30

ROYAL COURT 0171 565 5000 cc 420 0100 (24hrs) Downstairs (Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane) EAST IS EAST by Ayub Khan-Din, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Sat Mat 3.30pm. Upstairs (Ambassadors, West St) starts tonight. VOICES FROM SPAIN, a week of rehearsed readings. Eve 7.30. SEMINAR: Voices from Spain, Sat 3.30 12 Apr

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■ FILM

Can the new initiatives on distribution improve choice for the British cinema-goer?



■ POP

Mary Coughlan goes her own way in a lyrical masterclass at the Watermans Arts Centre

THE TIMES ARTS



■ MUSIC

James MacMillan's new work draws inspiration from the life of one of Scotland's saints



■ RECORDING

Riccardo Muti is Building a Library's choice for the perfect night out with *Aida*

CINEMA: **Carol Allen** finds out how distributors bridge the gap between film-makers and goers

Who fills our local screens?

This Friday a modestly budgeted thriller with a Glasgow setting opens in 15 cinemas throughout Scotland, prior to a national British release next month. A comparatively minor event in film terms, perhaps, but important for a company called Metrodome, because *The Near Room* marks the arrival of a new kid on the block in Britain's distribution scene.

Distributors are the people who get films into cinemas; they are the link between the film-makers and the film-goers. They are dominated by Hollywood's representatives in Britain, companies like Columbia, UIP, Warner, Fox and Buena Vista. While enjoying some autonomy, their main business is to put the movies made and acquired by the big Hollywood studios into British cinemas.

Yet much of the interesting and original cinema on our screens gets there via distribution companies which are not attached to Hollywood's umbilical cord: art-house distributors such as Artificial Eye, who for 21 years have embraced foreign-language movies and the work of American independent film-makers, or — at the other end of that spectrum — tiny companies such as Gala, who scored a considerable success a few years back with *Wild Target*.

On a somewhat larger scale, there is the French-owned Guild with its mixed bag of art-house movies and high-profile critical successes (*Burnt by the Sun*, *Antonia's Line* and *Breaking the Waves*) and Polygram, whose "labels" include Britain's Working Title (*Fargo* and *Dead Man Walking*).

Entertainment, a family firm, is one of the British success stories. In the past few years it has enjoyed a growth in product and prestige with such films as *Seven*, *The Piano*, *Leaving Las Vegas* and *Evita*. Other players are the HTV-owned First Independent and Rank, whose operation, inherited by new owners Carlton, covers distribution and co-production deals with a variety of American and British companies.

It is at the modest end of the market that Metrodome has decided to set up its stall. As Rupert Preston, Metrodome's acquisition director, explains: "Between the big independently released films and the art-house movies, there's a large gap. There are hundreds of good films being made all round the world which aren't being seen in the UK simply because there aren't enough companies here to release them. The films we've got in this first year are all films from young film talent, which tend to be aimed at the 16 to 30-year-olds, perhaps with a bit of a male bias."

Metrodome's first truly national release early next month, however, has rather a female bias. *Margaret's Museum*, based on short stories by Sheldon Currie, stars Helena Bonham Carter. That will be followed by two films from the American independent sector: *Johns*, starring Lukas Haas and David Arquette, and *Palookaville*, a warm-hearted comedy about three young losers who want to be winners.

But there is more to Metrodome than acquisition. The company is the result of a marriage between Preston's company Starlight, which last year released the critically acclaimed *Swimming with Sharks*, and Metrodome Films, makers of *Leon the Pig Farmer*: so future Metrodome movies will be distributed through its own company.

> "Too many quality pictures are fighting for a screen"

"This is what the studios do, and we're aiming to be a micro studio," says Alan Martin, the managing director. "We're also receptive to other producers. If it's a good project we can take a producer right through from production to distribution."

This was also the thinking when Channel 4 set up its own distribution company, Film Four Distributors, two years ago, realising the publicity and other advantages of being able to control the entire operation. And it is the sort of arrangement which is intended to flourish under the four lottery-funded film awards to be announced in May.

Virtually everyone in film land has a bid in. Will Clarke, head of distribution for Feature Film, hopes that at least one of the smaller companies will benefit. "It could be a great opportunity to create growth for independent distributors," he says.

Britain is one of the most expensive places in the world to launch a film in terms of film print, marketing and advertising costs, which is why there are Hollywood films with major stars which never get a theatrical release here. Unless the box office takings are likely to cover the expense of distribution, such films are unlikely to find their way into a cinema near you.

Another difficulty, especially for the art-house companies, is the lack of suitable screens. Electric Pictures, for example, should have had a nice little earner with the highly praised French film *Ridicule*, but as Electric's Liz Wrenn says: "There are too many quality pictures fighting for screen space. I had to take *Ridicule* off good screens while there was still a big demand for it because other films were booked in."

Yet the future may be looking a little brighter for films like *Ridicule*. The increase in cinema audiences combined with the dramatic growth of multiplexes should create more opportunities for movies big and small.

Preston hopes that by concentrating on new talent, all the "new kids on the block" will grow together. "Obviously as our company develops, the film-makers we're working with will too, and they will start making bigger films. So if we have developed a good relationship, we will probably continue it next time they make a film."



A scene from the modestly budgeted *The Near Room*, the first film to be distributed by newcomer Metrodome, which has ambitions to be a "micro studio"

Soaring away

POP

MARY COUGHLAN is one of those established Irish names you might have expected to see lined up alongside Mary Black, Sinead O'Connor and Sharon Shannon as part of the From The Heart festival, a celebration of Irish culture at the Barbican. But while Donal Lunny was kicking off that event in tehe City, Coughlan was way out west at Watermans Arts Centre in Brentford, doing what she does best — her own thing.

After spending most of her recording life with Warner Brothers, Coughlan has now signed to Big Cat, an independent label with eclectic taste. Her new home has given her the space to release two albums, last year's *Live In Galway* and the new studio *LP, After The Fall*.

Watermans Arts Centre is a fairly stark place for a jazzy blues singer to perform — and some of the audience sat and chatted around the sides, as though it was just Friday night in the pub. Coughlan attempted to draw everyone in by opening up with the smokily atmospheric *Meet Me Where They Play the Blues*. Backed by a four-piece band, on guitar, bass, sax and piano, Coughlan got the first big response of the evening when she played a rousing version of *Ride On*, made famous by Christy Moore.

An undoubted highlight of the set was the powerful, country-stained blues of *Magdalen Laundry*, which has now been given a darker, eastern feel. The crowd seemed to revel in this, as well as the more straightforward, rockier moments, but Coughlan is at her best when her voice is given the space to soar above the band as it did on the closing cover of Sam Cooke's *You Send Me*.

ANN SCANLON

Saints preserved

CONCERT

HAVING commemorated the 1,400th anniversary of the death of St Columba in his *Meditation on Iona* in Glasgow only two months ago, James MacMillan has now turned his creative attention to another Scottish saint. Sixteen hundred years after his arrival in Galloway, Ninian has become the patron saint of an epic clarinet concerto.

Ninian is far more than a mere test of endurance, however. As John Cushing demonstrated in its first performance with **Paul Daniel** and the **Royal Scottish National Orchestra** in the Usher Hall, Edinburgh, its primary motivation is spiritual rather than technical. During its three movements and almost 40-minute duration, it covers not only the whole pitch and dynamic range of the solo instrument but also an extraordinary variety of expression, from crude violence to mystic contemplation. The concerto is, in fact, a frankly programmatic examination of three legends associated with St Ninian.

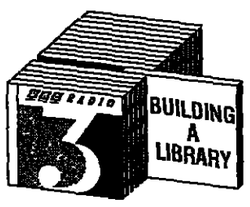
Even so, below the eventful surface — the orchestral bellowing of an angry bull in the opening story of death and resurrection; the wide-ranging clarinet nocturne in a story of a crippled boy restored to health in the middle movement; the prolonged prayer and the hymn tunes in the largely slow-moving finale — there is a consistent motivic undercurrent. That is one element which adds a dimension of sustained thought to moments of apparently mindless percussive aggression and naively descriptive colouring. The other is the role of the soloist, who carries an eloquent authority throughout.

GERALD LARNER

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available classical music recordings, presented in conjunction with the Radio 3 programme

VERDI'S AIDA
Reviewed by Michael Oliver



VERDI'S Aida needs four superlative artists in its principal roles, but in three it requires almost two voices within the same singer. Aida herself is a queenly figure, a captive princess, in love with the soldier chosen to crush her own people, but both her love and her royal status are dangerous secrets. Radames is a soldier and a hero, but his love for Aida drives him to betray his country. The proud Egyptian princess Amneris also loves Radames, but her jealousy and patriotism lead her to destroy him. Verdi demands powerful emotions of all three singers, but also asks them for the most refined shadings of tone to express their private torments.

The 16 recordings currently available contain some distinguished performances. These include Renata Tebaldi in sumptuous voice in her first account of the title role (London 440 239-2), Placido Domingo's fourth and most poetic portrayal of Radames (Sony Classical S3K 45973), and the triumphant teaming of Zinka Milanov and Jussi Björling (RCA GD 86652). But three recordings stand out. Maria Callas was at her most inspired when responding to colleagues as vividly imaginative as herself, and her long duet scene with Tito Gobbi as Aida's stern father Amonasro is one of the greatest confrontations in operatic recording. Tullio Serafin is the sympathetic conductor (EMI CDS 5 56316-2), but the (mono) recording sounds its age.

*Leontyne Price was even more of a natural Aida than Callas, and in her first recording of the role her voice was at its most resplendent. She was superbly partnered by the finest Radames on disc, Jon Vickers. Alas, the conducting of Sir Georg Solti is often fussy or over-assertive (Decca 417 416-2). Montserrat Caballé's Aida, however, is more exquisitely sung than even Callas's or Price's, conveying the suffering as well as the nobility of the character. Domingo is her stalwart Radames, Fiorenza Cossotto and Piero Cappuccilli the reliable Amneris and Amonasro. **Riccardo Muti** conducts the **New Philharmonia Orchestra** with subtlety and vigour, and the recording is clean and spacious (**EMI CDS 7 47271-8, £44.99**).*

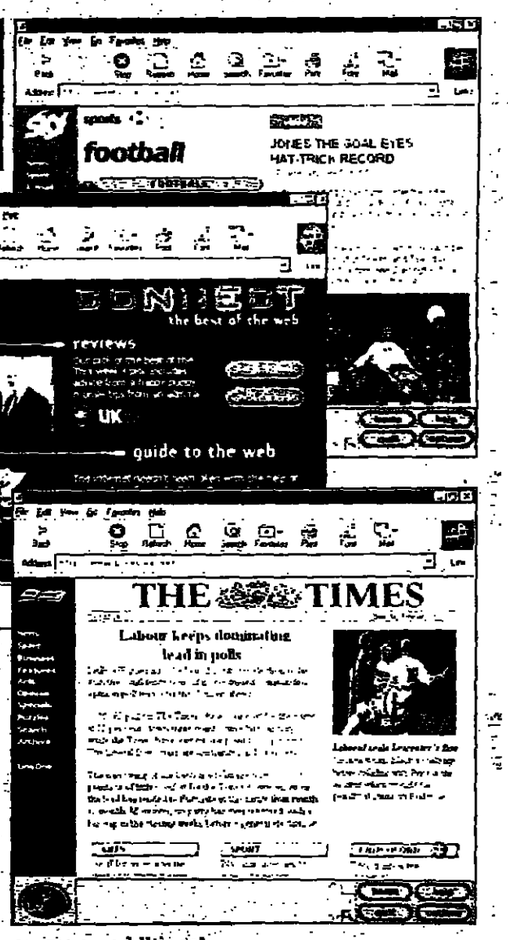
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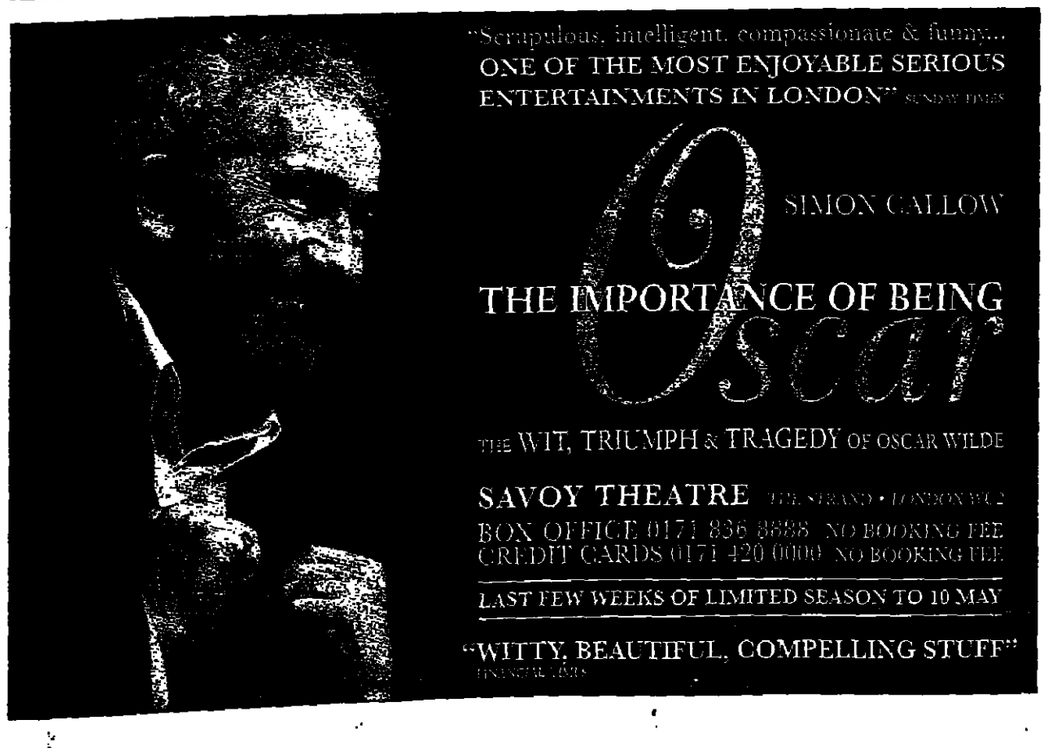
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Director of Legal Affairs

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LAW

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John Hayes on an issue at the heart of professional relationships — confidentiality

Can you keep a secret?

Keeping secrets is becoming harder for professional people. The churches have been arguing for clergymen to be exempted from laws which would authorise the bugging of conversations between professionals and those alleged to be involved in crime. Lawyers now have to tell the authorities about clients they suspect of money laundering or drug trafficking.

This trend is now deepening. From last week, company pension scheme actuaries and auditors have to tell the Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority (OPRA) about any breach of the law relating to the pension scheme which they believe is likely to be materially significant to the way OPRA does its job.

What does all this mean? The issue is one that strikes at the heart of professional relationships — confidentiality. The duty to keep confidential information is one that applies by common law to all employees, whether spies or milkmen. The same is true for professional advisers, except where the criminal attempts to involve the professional in committing a crime, or where the public interest demands that the authorities be alerted. Lawyers are exempt, however, from this latter duty.

Now, the price of silence can be the payment of massive damages when a firm collapses. The people most likely to be insured in that situation will be the professional advisers to the firm. The chance of them being sued is heightened where Parliament has decreed in the public interest that the professionals must report some types of irregularities to the regulator.

In banks and in insurance companies, this duty has mainly been triggered by major problems indicating serious questions about the financial viability of the institution, or reflecting serious doubts about the fitness of the directors or senior managers. The Financial Services Act, and now the Pensions Act, impose a much lower threshold, so that relatively small issues may have to be reported.

All this could degenerate into an atmosphere of cynicism and recrimination. A much more positive approach is needed. Clients, whether grand financial institutions or lay bodies, should create a culture where checks on compliance and voluntary confessions of failure become a way of life.

When a member of the senior management course at Henley Management College in 1979, I asked Adrian Cadbury what boards of directors did. He explained that one of their most important roles was to examine projects, in an unvindictive way, to see whether they lived up to their expectations and, if not, why that had not happened. Trustees and employers should learn to adopt a similar role. They should also have pride in spotting and correcting errors well before their professional advisers come on the scene. If they work with those advisers to concentrate on making systems work to reduce, if never eliminate, the possibility of error, then — as long as their regulator is pragmatic and sensible — they should have nothing to fear. I know of at least one regulator who fits this bill.

● *John Hayes, a solicitor by training, was appointed chairman of OPRA in April 1996 and took up the appointment on a full-time basis in June 1996.*



The price of silence: few dared to blow the whistle on Robert Maxwell's activities

Blow the whistle, save a life

THE launch of the pensions regime last week marks a sea change in public attitudes toward whistleblowing. Four years ago, Public Concern at Work had to call on the *pro bono* services of two QCs to convince the Charity Commission that whistleblowing might ever be for the public benefit.

When Public Concern at Work was launched we avoided the term, because whistleblowers were presented as misguided souls who were crucified for their pains. This portrayal did nothing to reassure our prospective clients — employees with evidence of serious malpractice but uncertain of whether or where to sound the alarm.

The case we made for whistleblowing lay in the official reports into disasters and scandals, such as the *Herald of Free Enterprise*, the Clapham train crash, BCCI, Piper Alpha and Barlow Clowes. These all found that employees had been aware of the danger of malpractice, but were either too scared to sound the alarm or had done so ineffectively.

Significantly, 90 per cent of clients who follow our advice report a successful outcome. This has much to do with our policy that, if raised responsibly within the organisation, concerns about malpractice will be addressed properly by those in charge. In exceptional circumstances, however, we have had no option but to help the client to alert the authorities. Two recent examples led to a four-year prison sentence for the owner of an old people's home who had sexually assaulted his residents, and the conviction of two managers for a £1 million fraud.

While this approach recognises the importance of confidentiality in the workplace, we apply established legal principles to ensure it is not abused by those out to flout the law. This approach builds on the legal principle of notice: that people can be expected to account for their actions once told of a problem.

The most salutary illustration of this principle was the first conviction in the UK for corporate manslaughter, following the Lyme Bay canoeing disaster. Months before the disaster an instructor wrote to the managing director warning that lives were in danger. Unable to explain his failure to respond, the managing director was sentenced to two years in prison.

GUY DEHN

● *The author is director, Public Concern at Work (0171-404 6609), a charity that gives free legal advice to employees concerned about workplace malpractice.*

A fair election: how the law protects us

In 1891, Mr Justice Hawkins pronounced that "one cannot look too hardly and weigh in golden scales the acts of men hot in their political excitement". But the law does try to regulate the conduct of elections. As the campaign warms up, candidates and voters may welcome a guide to some important principles of election law.

Candidates accused of spending insufficient time with their families, or too much time with their bank accounts, should note that the law seeks to prevent unreasonable intrusion into their private lives. The Representation of the People Act 1983 makes it unlawful to publish any "false statement of fact in relation to the candidate's personal character or conduct" for the purpose of influencing electoral prospects, unless there are reasonable grounds for believing the statement to be true.

During previous election campaigns, courts have had to consider when allegations of impropriety have been "personal" in nature. In 1895, the Court of Appeal granted an injunction to the Liberal candidate in the parliamentary election in Chesterfield to stop his Conservative opponent from distributing a leaflet accusing him of being a cruel hypocrite who starved his employees. Courts have held that to say that a candidate "would not pay his hotel bills or debts" concerns "personal character or conduct", but it is not "personal" to call a candidate a "communist" or a "radical traitor".



COUNSEL

DAVID PANNICK QC

The law does its best to ensure that people vote according to their own assessment of the merits of the rival candidates. It is a corrupt practice (for which an offender may be prosecuted and, if convicted, imprisoned) to threaten or inflict "any temporal or spiritual injury" on people to induce them to vote for or against a candidate, or to punish them for doing so.

As to temporal injuries, courts have held that it is unlawful to dismiss (or to threaten to dismiss) employees or tenants because of their voting intentions. In 1857, the headmaster of a grammar school, the Rev E.L. Barnwell, was accused of a corrupt practice by threatening the local baker that unless he voted for Mr Barnwell's preferred candidate in the election in Denbigh, Mr Barnwell would take away his custom and that of the church charity (which gave 60 loaves a week to the poor). The baker stood firm ("He answered that he had several persons to please besides Mr Barnwell").

The court accepted Mr Barnwell's denial that he had made such threats. But the judge made clear that the allegations, if substantiated, would have established a breach of the law. There are limits to this principle: in 1910, a court held that it is not a corrupt practice to stop using a person to look after your puppies on account of that person's political views.

As to spiritual injuries, ministers of religion may lawfully address their flock on the merits, and defects, of the rival parties and candidates. But they must not suggest that divine rewards or punishments will follow according to the vote that is cast. In the *Galway Town Election Petition Case* in 1869, Mr Justice Keogh referred to the charge ("and a more fearful charge I know not of") that a bishop had "refused the most solemn rites of the Church to persons on account of their voting or not voting in a particular way". The judge said that, if proved, such an allegation would make the election null and void, as would any "play upon the superstitious feelings of the people". Happily, no wrongdoing was there established.

The courts have had to consider how candidates describe themselves. In 1899, Mr Justice Wright declared that if the nomination paper is "a mere abuse of the right of nomination or an obvious unreality", for example "if it purported to nominate a deceased sovereign", then it ought to be rejected.

In the 1983 general election, a Mr Hanoman changed his name by deed poll to Margaret Thatcher, and sought nomination in the then Prime Minister's constituency under that name, for the "Conservationist Party", giving his address as Downing Street Mansions. The returning officer wisely rejected the nomination paper.

In *R v Bennett ex parte Mr Margaret Thatcher*, the Court of Appeal refused an application by Mr Thatcher for judicial review because the application was an abuse of process as he had the "unlawful object of confusing the people and making the electoral process a farce". But the court declined to decide whether the returning officer had power to act as he did.

In 1994, the Divisional Court held that the returning officer for a European parliamentary election had lawfully concluded that the nomination paper of a candidate describing himself as a "Literal Democrat" was valid, even if it was calculated to mislead voters who intended to vote for the Liberal Democrat candidate.

Five years ago, Mr Justice Macpherson rejected a claim by a disgruntled voter who sought an injunction to stop the general election because he could vote only for "vested interest political parties seeking their own ends". Election law has its limits.

● *The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford*

Ringing changes

INNS AND OUTS

TONY GIRLING, the President of the Law Society, has delivered on at least one of the promises he made on his election last summer. As soon as Mr Girling was safely installed, he promised to take urgent steps to improve the society's inquiry-handling process after complaining that "many find that they cannot even get through to the switchboard".

Now, eight months into his term, it appears he has at least got to grips with the switchboard problem. An *Inns and Outs* survey last week found a series of calls to the main Chancery Lane switchboard answered by helpful staff in four seconds.

Gay law

IS LITIGATION the best way to advance gay rights? The topic will head the agenda at a one-day conference on lesbian and gay law reform to be held at the University of London Union, Malet Street, on April 19.

Martin Bowley, QC, the former Bar Council treasurer, is one of the organisers of the event, which is being held by the Bar Lesbian and Gay Group and Lesbian and Gay Lawyers' Association.

"The conference will be aiming to identify an agenda for lesbian and gay law reform in the new Parliament," he says. Workshops will cover fostering and adoption, immigration, employment, criminal law and inheritance law. Details: 0171-831 1674.

● *THE International Bar Association's ambitious One Dollar Per Lawyer for Human Rights appeal has had a quick response at the highest levels. As soon as he heard about the appeal during a recent hearing, Mr Justice Dowd, AO, of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, Australia, whipped out a dollar for himself and one for his associates.*

Gun law

LIFE IS becoming precarious for judges and lawyers in Albania. Perparim Kalo, an Albanian lawyer based in Tirana, says that the escape of 1,000 prisoners, combined with the proliferation of guns on the streets, has "made life insecure, particularly for those lawyers and judges who were involved in the criminals' original trials". As a result of the potential threat to the lawyers' lives, the courts have been closed. Foreign work has also dried up. Mr Kalo says: "Many clients have simply cancelled their projects here and have left the country."

SCRIVENOR

Saddle-sore on the banks of the Nile

A SPONSORED cycle ride along the banks of the Nile is how Kenneth Rokison, QC, chose to celebrate his 60th birthday recently. The six-day trip was in aid of Mencap, who also organised it.

The 507-kilometre ride, which started on March 22 in 30C heat and ended 4½ days later, involved more than 150 cyclists.

"It was very hard on the bum," Mr Rokison said, "but we were a group of very determined people."

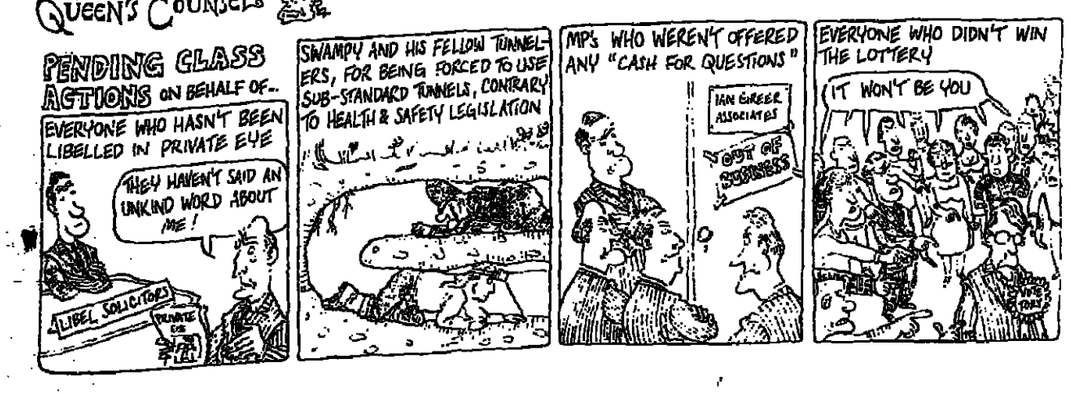
Mr Rokison, head of chambers at 20 Essex Street, was joined by Judge (Tony) Hallgarten, former head of the same chambers, who sits in the Inner London Commercial Court, and Carol Thatcher, daughter of Baroness Thatcher.

Mr Rokison raised £12,500 in sponsorship pledges from the Bar and City solicitors.



Kenneth Rokison: training

STEUART & FRANCIS



The Chancery Bar Association

SPRING LECTURE

THE WOOLF REPORT: FORWARDS OR BACKWORDS FOR THE NEW LORD CHANCELLOR?

given by

Michael Zander QC

Professor of Law, London School of Economics

The Spring Lecture will be held at
6.00pm Monday 28 April 1997 in the Great Hall, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

This is a public lecture and admission is free. The Chancery Bar Association welcomes everyone who is interested in the topic. Any inquiries about the lecture should be made to 11 Old Square on 0171-430-0341.

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Deregulation in Central and Eastern Europe has opened up new business opportunities. As a result the legal department wishes to appoint an ambitious, commercial lawyer dedicated to this burgeoning area. Previous experience of emerging markets and particularly derivatives is advantageous, however a genuine enthusiasm and a desire to undertake a hybrid legal/front office role in-house is essential. Personality and a flair for commercial decision making is of prime importance. Both remuneration and prospects for progression are excellent and there is ample opportunity for foreign travel.

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Chambers Banking & Finance specialise in the recruitment of lawyers into banks and other financial institutions. For further information about the above positions or for constructive career advice, please telephone **Deborah Kirkman** or **Stuart Morton** on **0171 606 8844**. Complete confidence is assured.

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An NOP Survey

Which legal directory is the most popular among users of legal services? We – naturally – maintain that ours, *Chambers*, is the most popular. *The Legal 500* say the same about theirs. For several years, they have been quoting a Gallup survey of chief in-house lawyers which they commissioned in April 1994. It put their directory ahead of ours. We say that our directory has improved so much in the past three years that the Gallup survey is no longer valid.

Our own research tells us that *Chambers* is now preferred, but until now we have had no independent evidence to support us.

In February, therefore, we asked NOP to carry out the same sort of survey of chief in-house lawyers as Gallup conducted in 1994. The results are now available. By a substantial margin, these lawyers say they prefer *Chambers*. When asked which directory they were most aware of, 50%, unprompted, first mentioned *Chambers* compared with 21% mentioning *Legal 500*. This question gave the best response for our directory, but all the questions produced favourable responses.

Asked, for instance, which directory they would use to identify a leading law firm in a particular specialisation, 42% of chief in-house lawyers first mentioned *Chambers* compared with only 30% mentioning *Legal 500*. The same result was reported for identifying individual solicitors or barristers.

Why the turnaround? One explanation may be found in the responses which show that, of the two directories, *Chambers* was considered the best-researched.

Michael Chambers

INDUSTRY

Sonya Rayner, Morwenna Lewis

Trademarks: London
Int'l co with trademarks in over 60 countries seeks experienced trademark professional to manage the portfolio. General in-house work will include negotiating int'l contracts and employment matters.

Corporate/Comm: West Midlands
Opp for a lawyer with min 5 yrs' pqe to join engineering PLC. Position involves M&A, company secretarial, insurance, IP and contractual matters.

Corporate/Commercial: North East
Solr/Barr with min 3 years' pqe req'd to join expanding int'l telecomms co. Role will involve general commercial work including EU competition. Possibilities for overseas travel.

Oil Lawyer: Aberdeen
Solr or Barr with approx 7 years' expce to join UK subsid of major independent oil co. Work includes joa's, farm-ins, acquisitions and disposals. Good business sense and experience of UKCS essential.

Trade Mark Agent: London
Exc opp for qual trademark agent with approx 5 yrs' expce, with a legal and patents background, to join well-known practice with portfolio of household names. Excellent prospects and package. Some travel.

Commercial Property: North East
Opp for Solr with approx 2-3 yrs' pqe in comm prop to join legal dept of int'l services co. Ideal as a first move into industry. Should have existing links with the North.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

SOUTH: *Helen Mills, Alicen Shepherd, Noel Murray*
LONDON: *David Woolfson, Simon Anderson* NORTH: *Suki Bahra, Paul Thomas*

Legal Researcher
Chambers' legal directory needs qualified lawyer to join team researching the legal profession. Ring Reena SenGupta for details: (0171) 606 1300.

Employment Litigation: EC4
Niche media firm seeks 3-6 year qualified employment specialist to handle predominantly contentious work for media and commercial clients.

Professional Negligence: EC4
Ambitious and commercially minded 2-4 yr qualified defendant professional negligence solr sought by small specialist insurance firm in the City.

Banking Litigation Partner: City
Profitable med-sized firm with strong insolvency practice seeks experienced partner to assist in the development of a strong banking litigation practice.

Commercial Property: West End
Leading niche practice offers 2-4 yr qualified solicitor high quality work, substantial client contact and opportunity to develop own following.

Company/Commercial: Gulf States
Major City firm whose international practice is particularly strong in Middle East seeks 0-2 year qual solicitor for broad caseload. Attractive location.

Banking/Capital Markets: City
One of the most prestigious Wall St firms offers 0-3 year qualified solicitors work high degree of responsibility and New York salaries.

Investment Funds: City
Medium/large firm, renowned for its investment funds practice, seeks 1-2 year qualified solicitor for broad mix of transactional and regulatory work.

Employment: Herts
1-3 year qualified solicitor sought by medium sized firm. To include contentious and non-contentious work, mainly employer but some employee.

Partner Designate: Leeds
Medium-sized city centre practice offers a rare opportunity for a commercial property solicitor to take over an existing high quality caseload.

QD IN-HOUSE LEGAL

EMPLOYMENT — *To £Excellent*
US Securities house seeks an experienced employment lawyer at the 2-4 year level to join their London based legal team. As the sole employment lawyer you will be required to advise on a broad range of contentious and non-contentious issues and IT advocacy experience would be of particular benefit. A tough robust personality is prerequisite. **Ref: T35960**

OIL — *Scotland To £Excellent*
UK energy company seeks a 1-4 year qualified general company/commercial lawyer for its international division to be based in Scotland specialising in downstream work. Energy experience to date is not pre-requisite but would help. Most important is a genuine enthusiasm for the oil sector. Excellent opportunity to join a high profile company. **Ref: T38068**

JUNIOR MEDIA — *To £Competitive*
Major television company seeks business affairs manager with 2-4 years' pqe in the TV sector. Crucial is personality, must be mature with real gravitas, able to establish credibility quickly. Work will be demanding and high profile, affording excellent TV experience. **Ref: T36492**

CONSTRUCTION — *To £70,000 + Benefits*
Head of Legal sought by this major construction company to develop legal team for the international construction division. Based in Greater London, you will bring excellent managerial skills as well as international non-contentious construction experience. Excellent opportunity for an experienced construction lawyer. **Ref: T36955**

COMMERCIAL/IP — *To £Good + Car/Bonus*
UK pharmaceutical company based in Home Counties seeks an additional lawyer to join existing team with at least 5 years' pqe in the general commercial and IP spheres. Experience from the pharmaceutical sector and a science background would be ideal but not pre-requisite. Work will include broad ranging commercial contracts, patents and product liability. **Ref: T39149**

JUNIOR COMMERCIAL — *To £35,000 Plus Bens.*
International retail company seeks a junior commercial lawyer with between 0-3 years' pqe to become the sole counsel in the UK. Work will range from EC issues, marketing, consumer law to employment issues and in addition to broad ranging commercial experience the right individual will have a confident outgoing personality for this young and dynamic subsidiary. **Ref: T39484**

For further information in complete confidence, please contact June Mestel, Rebecca Errington or Greg Abrahams (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0181-442 0841 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

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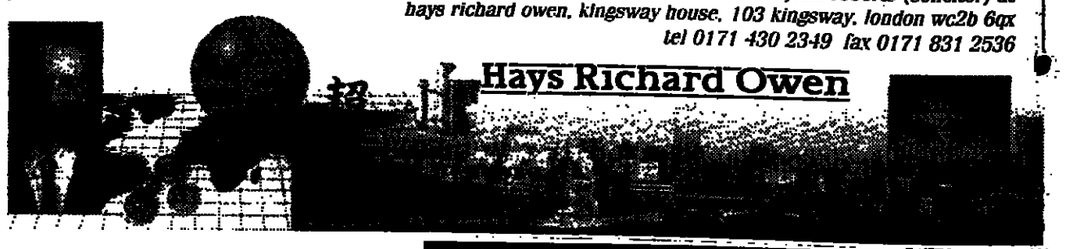
Reporting to the Managing Director, the appointee will be responsible for the interpretation, advice and actions in respect of the enforcement and collection of existing outward re-insurance. Specifically, this will include:

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- The instruction and management of outside counsel
- Acting as UK liaison for all UK and EC legal requirements directed by the US parent
- Statutory compliance
- The management of all audits and inspections performed by or on behalf of the company's reinsurers

As a key member of the management team, the appointee must have a proactive approach and apply sound commercial judgement in resolving complex legal problems.

Candidates will need at least 5 years pqe with specific experience in the reinsurance or claims environment and in depth knowledge of UK contract law. This may have been gained either in practice or in an in-house role. Company secretarial experience will be an advantage, but not a prerequisite. A competitive remuneration package will be offered to the successful applicant.

please contact john roberts (solicitor) at hays richard owen, kingsway house, 103 kingsway, london wc2b 6qx tel 0171 430 2349 fax 0171 831 2536



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Excellent communication skills and business awareness are essential. Whitbread offers an attractive remuneration package, including company car.

Please write with your CV to Sarah Moakes, Human Resources Administrator, Whitbread Plc, Park Street West, Luton, Beds LU1 3BG. Closing date for applications is 25th April 1997.

We welcome applicants from all sections of the community.

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The deadline for completed application forms is 22nd April 1997.

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No more dirty business

John Lang reports on international attempts to tackle corruption

Bribery and kickbacks are once more in the news. As Michael Allcock, the Inland Revenue investigator convicted of accepting bribes gets five years, allegations of corruption at Volkswagen's Czech subsidiary, Skoda, surface.

At an international level, governments — with one notable exception — have, in recent years, been ambivalent when addressing the issue of corrupt payments in international trade. Now, though, attitudes seem to be changing.

At a ministerial meeting of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in May 1996, ministers agreed to criminalise bribery of foreign public officials "... in an effective and co-ordinated manner in order to combat bribery in international business transactions ..." This agreement is in marked contrast to events in 1994, when an OECD working party on illicit payments was unable to agree a joint strategy for the elimination of corruption in international trade. Transparency International, formed in 1993 to campaign for a code of business ethics to rid the world of bribery, was of the view that Britain and Japan were the least supportive of the 1994 OECD initiative.

At present, the United States is the only country to have outlawed the payment of bribes to foreign officials. The US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act 1977 prohibits the making of payments to foreign government officials so as to obtain or retain business. The American position represents one end of a broad spectrum; at the other, bribes are a tax-deductible expense. Not surprisingly, the Americans are furious. In July last year, Mickey Kantor, the US Commerce Secretary, gave several examples of unnamed European companies allegedly beating American companies in bids by paying bribes. The US will no doubt tirelessly campaign for action in this area and we are likely to see the World Trade Organisation develop as the forum for debate. Indeed, the ministerial conference of the WTO in Singapore in December last year adopted a declaration to establish a working group to conduct a study on transparency in government procurement practices.

Turning to the position at home, the Prevention of Corruption Act 1966 is one of a few UK statutes dealing with bribery. It provides that if any agent accepts any gift or consideration as an inducement for doing or forbearing to do an act in relation to his principal's affairs, he is guilty of an offence. The donor, too, will be guilty of an offence.



Michael Allcock: the convicted Inland Revenue investigator

In civil law (as opposed to statute law), a bribe exists if a gift is made by a donor to an agent (or employee) or a third party (without their knowledge or consent), with a view to inducing the agent to act in favour of the donor in relation to transactions between the donor and the third party.

The ease with which bribery can occur at the most basic level of trade and the options available to an innocent party on discovery of the bribery, can best be illustrated by way of example.

Mr Greenback is a sales manager at *Blindeye Limited, a widget manufacturer.* He slips Mr Gullible, the purchasing manager at Straight & Narrow Limited, £1,000 to ensure the placing of an order. When Straight & Narrow finds out, it is horrified. What can it do?

First, it could sack Mr Gullible. Secondly, it could rescind the contract. But if Straight & Narrow's customers are desperate for widgets, this may not be a good idea. Straight & Narrow could pursue Mr Gullible for recovery of the amount of the bribe and, if it elects to affirm the transaction, Blindeye as well (although it could not make a double recovery).

If Straight & Narrow has suffered a loss by entering into the transaction (by paying over the odds for the widgets), it can also claim damages in fraud, from *both* Mr Gullible and Blindeye. However, it must elect one or other of its claims before judgment (the higher of the two being the most likely candidate).

Whether Blindeye would be saddled with the actions of its employees is a difficult area but, put simply, if a court thinks it just for the employer to bear the loss (perhaps because they turned a blind eye to Mr Greenback's sales techniques), they will be held liable.

Life could get tougher for Blindeye (and Mr Greenback) if Mr Gullible was employed by a public body which felt compelled to report the matter to the authorities. The Prevention of Corruption Act 1916 provides that in proceedings brought under the 1906 Act (and the Public Bodies Corrupt Practices Act 1889), if it is proved that money was paid to a person employed by a government department or public body by a person trying to win business, the payment shall be deemed to have been paid corruptly, unless the contrary is proved.

Companies who, because of the actions of wayward employees, find themselves embroiled in a bribery scandal involving a public body, (as opposed to a commercial entity), are likely to experience greater difficulty in extracting themselves from the mess. Bearing in mind the actions of most public bodies are subject to public scrutiny, negotiating a way out will require considerable skill and agility.

Returning to the international arena, as the major trading countries begin discussing and (perhaps) implementing legislation to outlaw the payment of bribes to foreign officials, it may become commonplace for an unsuccessful (and aggrieved) bidder on a big international contract to press their government department to pressure the successful bidder's government to investigate the bid. At this point political expediency becomes a factor, (witness the Pergau Dam affair), and it is therefore difficult to predict the willingness of governments to act in these circumstances. However, governments are now more willing to address bribery at an international level and the business community would be well advised to keep a close eye on developments, not to mention their own internal codes of conduct.

● *The author is a partner in Llewelyn Zietman, a City law firm.*

How British lawyers are helping the Balkan state

Albania has not been ignored



International agencies have not given up on Albania. For example, there is still a plan at the Overseas Development Agency and the Know-How Fund to bring a group of officials to the UK to observe our elections. At the European Training Foundation (an EC agency based in Turin), Albanians could yet take part in a conference, scheduled for later this year, on the role of paralegals in economic reform.

According to Marco Nicolini, of Claes & Tonucci, the Italo-Belgian joint law firm which has an office in Tirana, the situation has improved considerably in the past week and its Albanian staff in the capital are almost back to normal working.

Claes & Tonucci has been active in Albania for some time on behalf of the European Union and a number of inward investors. Its office is staffed by a mixture of Italian and American lawyers together with locally recruited assistants. Although the disturbances had put fresh business on hold, Marco Nicolini felt that the new government could make a big difference.

"There will be renewed pressure on the Government to attract inward investment once stability fully returns," he says. "So while many developments are temporarily at a standstill (and no one doubts the dangers), there is still a lot of interest in getting on with the legal reforms which must lie at the foundation of economic progress."

Part of this stems from the fact that Albania's neighbour Montenegro is proving to be pretty successful at attracting economic investment. Mark Harisson, a partner at Evershed, has extensive experience of the Balkan region and gives Montenegro a "gold star" as an object for new investment. He is active on behalf of a number of clients who are putting money mainly into tourism. Along with Macedonia, Mr Harisson sees Montenegro as being one of the most attractive places in Central Europe for investment. "The geographical links with Italy and Greece give these countries excellent prospects and they have the necessary legal infrastructure," he says.

The difficulty with Albania was that a proper legal infrastructure was never satisfactorily established after the fall of the Marxist regime. There had been no legal training for 20 years and it was slow to get started on reform despite the efforts, for example, of the newly established British Albania Law Association (BALA). As one British lawyer active in the area says: "Government ministers would introduce laws and then tell no one about them — including other ministries."

One of the biggest holes in the hastily thrown together legal code was any reference to pyramid selling. Martin Day, formerly with Linklaters & Paine and now with MW Cornish & Co, is trying to do something about that. As an expert on the Balkans and vice-chairman of the British Yugoslav Law Association, Mr Day has been in contact with the Central Bank in Tirana to discuss appropriate legislation. He has also opened up discussions with the British Know-How Fund about possible funding for such a project.

The essence of Mr Day's proposals is that an adapted version of something like the UK's Fair Trading Act could put an end to the kind of scheme that has destroyed social order in Albania.

Another firm which has been advising on the relevance of UK law to Albania is Edwards Geldart, based in Cardiff. Through its links with the Belgian end of the Claes & Tonucci venture, Mr Geldart has been providing insights on how UK legislation might feed into the new Albanian system.

The most recent direct contact the firm has had was in mid-February when a party of Albanian lawyers was in London for meetings with civil servants just as the first riots broke out. They also paid a visit to the Houses of Parliament as the sleaze stories began.

They probably felt reassured that at least in one respect Albania could match Western standards.

EDWARD FENNELL

PROPERTY LAWYER

Warner Bros. International Theatres, one of the best known names in the entertainment industry, is currently operating in 10 countries worldwide, and is looking to develop a number of new markets in Europe and internationally. In Europe, it has close to 250 cinema screens and is committed to doubling in size over the next 30 months.

It now needs a property lawyer to co-ordinate all property aspects of this rapid expansion in Europe. Based at the European headquarters in London's West End, your role will be both legal and commercial.

You will be involved in all aspects of commercial decision making including strategic planning. On the legal side, the work will include preparing and negotiating agreements to lease and leases and all ancillary documentation, including construction documentation. There will also be involvement with the property management of the cinema complexes. It will be predominantly international, involving frequent European travel. Foreign languages are therefore a definite asset. You will report to the Director of European Business and Legal Affairs.

Candidates, who should be solicitors with at least four years' commercial property experience from either private practice or industry, must be commercially minded, with initiative and keen to take an active part in a young, dynamic 'hands-on' business environment. This is an outstanding opportunity with great scope for advancement.

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For further details please contact Sonya Rayner, who is handling this assignment on an exclusive basis.

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If you would like an informal and confidential discussion about these vacancies, please call any of: Tim Steadman, Alan Elias or Val Spence on 0171 600 1000.

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CONVEYANCING LAWYER

Bermuda

Appleby, Spurling and Kempe, a leading Bermuda law firm, has a vacancy for a Conveyancing Attorney in their Property Department. Applications are invited from solicitors, with eight to ten years' post qualification conveyancing experience in an English law based jurisdiction.

The work involves the complete range of conveyancing transactions including commercial and residential matters, both leasehold and freehold, within an unregistered title system.

Qualifications required of candidates include: a sound knowledge of and experience in all aspects of conveyancing; the ability to work unsupervised and in a team, broad and substantial experience of drafting documents; a proven record of high productivity; the ability to handle a large number of matters; and the ability to deal effectively with and communicate effectively with clients.

A pleasing and outgoing personality is essential.

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With a strong international management team, Fox Kids Europe has set about an innovative and challenging strategic programme, necessitating the appointment of its first European Counsel to manage its legal and business affairs division from its Central London headquarters.

A strong minded self starter, able to negotiate confidently and independently on behalf of the company, with initiative and commercial vision, you will have at least four years' television experience gained either in private practice or within industry. You will advise across a range of issues including broadcast, pay TV and cable distribution as well as satellite and transmission facilities, programme licensing and copyright. A sound understanding of EC, joint venture and corporate issues is crucial.

If you are excited by a position which will offer you the security of a highly successful international business environment whilst at the same time present you with a rare opportunity within a pioneering and highly dynamic team in Europe, you should seriously consider this role.

Fox Kids Europe will offer you an impressive package including a substantial basic salary and other benefits.

QD IN-HOUSE LEGAL

For further information in complete confidence, please contact June Mesrié or Rebecca Errington (both qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-357 0912 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

CITY ASSISTANTS

PUT US TO WORK FOR YOU

MEDIA (Non Cont) *£40,000 - £70,000*
So the English Patient beat you to it this time but it could all be different next year if you take this Oscar winning position at an established leader in the TV and film world. You will be 3-6 years' pqe, have quality experience in media and communications work and enjoy marketing. Excellent partnership prospects if you have star qualities.

EMPLOYMENT *c. £40,000*
Unparalled success in attracting new blue chip international clients leads this growing national practice to seek a junior employment law specialist (c. 2 years' pqe) to strengthen its team and to attract new employment law work from its burgeoning client base. Ideally candidates will have non-contentious and contentious experience. Long term prospects are excellent.

EC / COMPETITION *£40,000 - £50,000*
Top flight lawyer (2-4 years' pqe) sought by small distinguished EC/Competition team of pre-eminent City law firm. Closely involved in the unit's growth the role offers a unique opportunity to enhance both experience and reputation. Knowledge of telecoms, regulatory or trade law useful. Excellent prospects.

CONSTRUCTION *£32,000 - £45,000*
Acting for public bodies, public and private companies our client is a medium sized City firm with an established construction practice. Extremely busy on behalf of major institutional/development and banking clients the department seeks an ambitious specialist with 1-2 years' pqe to explore the exceptional cross-fertilisation opportunities. A key appointment with superb prospects in a firm noted for producing home grown partners.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY *£35,000 - £60,000*
Size isn't everything - this niche City firm is arguably the most successful of its kind at present. With 3-5 years' commercial property pqe, you will enjoy top quality work and an opportunity to make your mark. Young and progressive this firm seeks good client handling skills and commercial sense, and will show its appreciation with more than a round of applause.

COMMERCIAL & I.T. *£NQ - £32,000*
Only NQ - 1 year's pqe and planning your partnership already? This prestigious City practice offers an exceptional opportunity for a dynamic young lawyer committed to developing an expertise in non-contentious IT work but also able to handle general commercial instructions for a high quality client base. Ambition and enthusiasm essential.

CORPORATE FINANCE *£40,000 - £58,000*
Niche City firm seeks a 2-4 years' qualified corporate finance lawyer to join its market leading department, advising both domestic and international clients on joint ventures, M&A and the raising of finance (UK and cross border) An outstanding opportunity offering exceptional training facilities and exposure to the highest quality work. *£ March '97 NQ*

CORPORATE TAX
Our client is a prestigious City firm (c 60 partner) with a pre-eminent reputation in banking and general finance work. It seeks a recently qualified, academically strong solicitor with corporate tax experience gained during articles to join a high profile team advising international blue chip clients. An outstanding opportunity to join a core unit at a key stage in its growth. Ongoing training and prospects are guaranteed.

To discuss any of the above appointments in detail, please contact **Sarah King, Penny Turndrup or Simon Eagan on 0171 404 6669** (evenings/weekends: 0171 404 2039) or write to us, in complete confidence, at **44/45 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1JB** (fax: 0171 404 8817).

EAGAN JANION

SIB Investigations

The Securities and Investments Board (SIB) seeks to appoint a high calibre individual to the Enquiries and Investigations department of the Enforcement & Legal Services Division. The Division uses statutory powers, often in conjunction with other regulators, both here and abroad, to detect and deal with cases of abuse, damage and risk to investors.

This is an important position for effective investor-protection. Working with a professional and multi-disciplinary team, you will manage a number of 'difficult' cases, working on your own initiative, concentrating on investigation work, which will involve frequent travel in the UK and consequent litigation. You will co-operate with other regulators and enforcement agencies, including the DTI, SFO, the police, SROs, RPBs and the Bank of England.

Candidates should ideally have a legal/ regulatory background with forensic skills, an enquiring mind and the ability to work unsupervised under pressure. The work is always of a highly confidential nature and applicants should display maturity, tact and political sense. Experience of investigative work is essential, together with a general knowledge of the City and related issues.

Interested applicants should in the first instance contact Sue Lintern at Michael Page City, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH for an information pack, quoting reference number 343096. Telephone 0171 269 2365.

Closing date Wednesday 23rd April 1997.

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Junior Assistant *(Manchester)*
1-3 year qualified to assist, predominantly, with contentious but with some non-contentious work; and

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with genuine interest in developing specialist skills in construction.

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We look forward to hearing from you.

Please send your CV in the first instance to:
Nicola Deas, Head of Personnel & Administration, Addleshaw Booth & Co. Dennis House, Marsden Street, Manchester M2 1JD
or telephone in confidence on 0161 832 5994

OPPORTUNITIES IN CONSTRUCTION LEEDS MANCHESTER

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- Responsible for the full range of company secretarial duties, especially legal services, including commercial, corporate, property and litigation. Oversee the relationships with external support providers.
- Devise systems to ensure adherence to all corporate governance, regulatory and best practice codes. Demonstrate that the role provides real added value to the organisation.

THE QUALIFICATIONS

- Qualified Solicitor with a broad legal training gained ideally in a service industry or commercially oriented private practice. IT literacy a prerequisite.
- Knowledge of Yellow Book and regulatory practices essential. Preferably exposure to contractual negotiations with major customers/suppliers and acquisition targets.
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The property department is one of the core services provided by this very well-respected and successful practice. 2 junior property lawyers are sought, due to expansion, who are well-trained with good academics. This firm's philosophy is that "people make the difference" and it prides itself on providing a friendly, supportive and quality-driven environment. Ref: 3690.
Contact: Jane Glassberg.

BANKING 2-5 YEARS' PQE
This medium size practice has an outstanding reputation for the quality and diversity of its banking work and is particularly well known for its expertise in acquisition finance. The firm prides itself on its innovative thinking as financial engineering techniques become more complex. Excellent prospects for client orientated, top 20 lawyers aiming to become a bigger fish. Ref: 1514.
Contact: Peter Gosden.

ARBITRATION/LITIGATION PARTNER
City office of US firm specialising in dispute resolution, both orthodox and alternative, offers attractive prospects for partners with followings. You will be able to bring expertise and charisma to a young, dynamic partnership. Senior assistants seeking remuneration commensurate with their hard work and commitment should apply. Ref: 3644.
Contact: Cleo Binns.

CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL DUBAI
This is a rare opportunity to join the Dubai office of a major international law firm which is particularly strong in corporate, commercial and finance matters. You will have 0-3 years' PQE from a top City firm and be keen to handle a diverse range of top quality company/commercial work. You must also have a sense of adventure. Ref: 0101.
Contact: Pandora Close.

EMPLOYMENT 0-3 YEARS' PQE
Are you looking to move from the traditional City firm to a young, dynamic City firm with a difference, where your efforts will be recognised and highly rewarded? Our client has a high profile reputation for employment law and seeks young lawyers to handle work of the highest quality for household names. Ref: 2323.
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INSURANCE – IN HOUSE c.1 YEARS' PQE
Apply your legal skills in a front-line role which will place you right at the heart of this company's operations. If you would relish a more commercial, creative and involved position than is ever possible in a law firm and have c.1 years' PQE involving Professional Indemnity and/or Financial Institutions litigation you should find out more. Ref: 3396.
Contact: Paul Rumnacles.

PROJECT FINANCE – IN HOUSE 4-5 YEARS' PQE
Fascinating work with a very strong International focus awaits a 4-5 year qualified solicitor keen to leave private practice. This position would not suit everybody because it is varied, interesting and challenging and does demand proven experience of dealing with the financing of power related projects. Competitive salary and excellent perks. Ref: 3695.
Contact: Paul Rumnacles.

BROADCASTING LAWYER – IN HOUSE 5-6 YEARS' PQE
Major Broadcaster has an opportunity for an experienced lawyer with previous media exposure ideally gained in a broadcasting environment. The role encompasses a broad range of activities and advising various internal clients. This is an exciting and challenging position seen as pivitol within the organisation and provides an opportunity to work closely with the senior management. Ref: 3738.
Contact: Richard Gawn.

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Reporting to the European Legal Counsel and liaising with a wide variety of internal bodies and external advisers, the successful applicant will be a UK or EU qualified Solicitor, Barrister or Advocate with a minimum of three years post-qualification experience in industry or private practice. A customer-focused individual with excellent communication skills, you will operate independently without close supervision or dedicated PA support. Working to tight deadlines within a fast-moving environment, a flexible approach and the ability to prioritise and manage multiple projects effectively is essential.

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- experience working with the software industry or other copyright business
- knowledge of EU competition law

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EAST ANGLIAN CHAMBERS

NORWICH - IPSWICH - COLCHESTER

East Anglian Chambers congratulates Mrs Caroline Ludlow on her appointment to the Circuit Bench. This brings to six the current number of Judges who are former members of these Chambers.

Chambers is pleased to announce that Paul Shadarevian, a former partner of Norton Rose, and an editor of Butterworth's Planning Law Service has accepted an invitation to join Chambers.

The appointment of Caroline Ludlow creates an outstanding opportunity for an applicant of suitable experience and expertise to become a tenant. East Anglian Chambers is a large and long established set which continues to expand at each of its three centres in Norwich, Ipswich and Colchester.

Applications are therefore invited from practitioners of 8 years call and above, particularly those who practise in criminal law. Applications will be treated in confidence and should be addressed to Carol Bull at 5, Museum Street, Ipswich IP1 1HQ or DX 3227.

OPPORTUNITIES IN IP/IT/TELECOMS AND EC/COMPETITION

1-4 YEARS' PQE

Allen & Overy is one of the leading international law firms with over 1600 staff working in 15 major centres worldwide. The Corporate Department, which has gone from strength to strength in recent years, includes specialist areas such as IP/IT/Telecoms and EC/Competition. We are now looking for additional high calibre lawyers to join these teams.

IP/IT/TELECOMS

The IP/IT/Telecoms Group has extensive experience and advises on large-scale and frequently international commercial transactions in these sectors, particularly mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and financings. The IP/IT team advises on all types of technology-related contracts including electronic banking and outsourcing arrangements and multimedia projects.

We are looking for Corporate lawyers with 1-4 years' post qualification experience who have worked in IP/IT intensive industries. Telecoms experience would be an advantage.

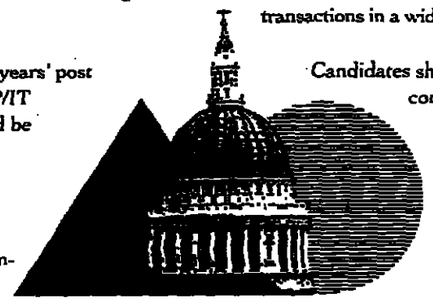
Candidates wishing to work across these sectors or to specialise in one or more areas will be considered as will candidates currently working in-house.

EC/COMPETITION

The EC/Competition Group is a well established team based in London and Brussels. The Group advises on a wide range of matters including EC law generally, EC and UK competition rules, international antitrust and the regulatory aspects of broadcasting, telecommunications and the utilities. You will advise on a full range of domestic and international transactions in a wide variety of business sectors.

Candidates should have 1-4 years' specialist experience in competition law gained in a leading firm. Prior experience of telecoms regulation, utilities or trade law would be particularly beneficial.

Please send your CV to: Christine Lynch, Personnel Manager, Allen & Overy, One New Change, London EC4M 9QQ or call her on 0171-330 4103.



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Oxon/Reading • The Midlands

Working in Oxford or Reading is a tempting alternative for many solicitors, both in terms of quality of life and quality of work. Salaries, whilst still lower than in London, are considerably higher than in the rest of the South East, and partnership prospects at the expanding firms are excellent. If you are due to qualify in September and are interested in discussing the opportunities on offer, or if you have up to 5 yrs' post-qualification experience and are looking for the right career move, we would be more than happy to have a confidential chat with you. The vacancies listed below are just a sample of the excellent positions currently available.

OXFORD/READING — COMMERCIAL LITIGATION
Outstanding opportunities across the region for bright commercial litigators seeking high quality work, including a vacancy for a NQ to 18 month qualified solicitor, and a superb new opening for a litigator with 3-5 yrs' mixed commercial litigation experience.

OXFORD/READING — CORPORATE and PROPERTY
We have recently seen an increase in instructions from top regional firms looking for assistants at the NQ-1yr, 1-2 yr and 2-4 yr levels with proven track records in either corporate law or commercial property. Attractive salaries guaranteed.

OXFORD/READING — PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY
Superb opportunity within vibrant Oxford professional indemnity team for a bright young solicitor at the N.Q.- 2 yr pqe level; additional opening in Reading for a 1-4 yr pqe solicitor with experience of Personal Injury and/or Professional Indemnity.

THAMES VALLEY — INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
Superb opportunities throughout the area for bright and ambitious Intellectual Property solicitors from Newly Qualified level upwards looking for high quality work and attractive prospects.

READING — EMPLOYMENT
Exciting opening at top notch firm for an outgoing Employment lawyer with 2-5 yrs pqe and a genuine interest in marketing. Attractive salary and excellent working environment guaranteed.

As a London or regional based solicitor, you may not have previously contemplated a career move to the Midlands. In terms of quality of work and that ever elusive quality of life, however, the region is able to offer an extremely attractive alternative to London. Salaries are excellent and the surrounding countryside is beautiful. Opportunites exist with good commercial firms in Birmingham, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire for solicitors, particularly at the 1-5 yr level. If you would like an initial chat in complete confidence, please give us a call. Listed below are an example of just some of our current instructions.

WARWICKSHIRE — COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
Highly regarded commercial firm in attractive location seeks 2-5yr qualified comm property solicitor. With impressive stable of clients, the firm is able to offer high quality caseload and excellent salary package. Ideal quality of life move for candidate with experience gained with well-respected firm.

BIRMINGHAM — NEWLY QUALIFIED
We have vacancies with well-regarded firms seeking 0-2yr pqe corporate and property solicitors (September 1997 qualifiers considered). Strong academics and training with major firm vital.

WARWICKSHIRE — PROPERTY PARTNER DES.
Experienced commercial property solicitor (pref. 4-8yrs pqe) sought by thriving medium-sized firm. Previous experience of co/comm work also desirable. Candidates should have proven track record in practice development.

NORTHANTS — COMMERCIAL LITIGATION
Superb opportunity for 1-3 yr qual solicitor to join well regarded firm in thriving market town.

WARWICKSHIRE MATRIMONIAL
Niche firm seeks 0-2yr qual solicitor. Excellent training on offer to bright solicitor. Previous experience not required but training in well-respected firm is vital.

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*For further details, please contact our retained consultant, **Bridget Burdon**, on 0171 430 1711, or write to her at Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN (Fax 0171 831 4186). This assignment is being handled exclusively by Graham Gill & Young.*

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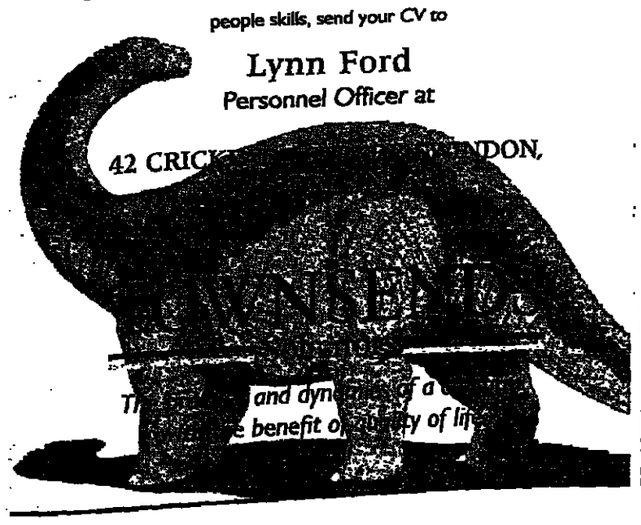
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CORPORATE — **TO £60,000**

Manifestly successful, highly profitable City practice enjoys a well earned reputation for the excellence of its Corporate Department and now seeks further ambitious, able 1-5 year qualified lawyers. Varied client base ranges from entrepreneurs to listed clients and financial institutions. High level of client contact is encouraged. The firm has a reputation for fast tracking candidates of partnership calibre. (Ref.4618)

IN-HOUSE PROPERTY — **TO £45,000 + BENS**

European multi-national with UK headquarters in South London seeks a 3-4 year qualified property lawyer to work in-house. Ideal candidate will be City trained with broad property experience, wanting the opportunity to broaden their experience and advise on general company commercial law as well. Exceptional opportunity for a property lawyer to make a first move in-house and to maintain excellent quality work. (Ref.9132)

EC COMPETITION — **TO £50,000**

Pre-eminent media and communications firm seeks dynamic assistant at the 3-5 year level to join expanding competition and regulatory group. You will be at the forefront of some of the most controversial and difficult competition law issues, involving UK and international merger clearances, MMC enquiries, OFT investigations and advice on RTPA and articles 85/86. You must combine competition law experience with demonstrable commercial acumen. (Ref.9163)

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Rare generalist banking role. Client is a well known European bank with a close-knit, central legal function. Seeks a mainstream banking lawyer with 3-4 years' experience from either a medium to large law firm or another bank. Your work will include single facility and syndicated lending and full range of corporate lending work. Well managed legal department, ensuring 'sensible' hours and good prospects for career progression. (Ref.9320)

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A lawyer with up to 2 years' general colco experience is sought by this young, dynamic company. The role will be as a sole legal advisor to a small group of companies, advising on commercial contracts, marketing issues, retail law, employment and IPRT. A forthright, independent manner is required with the desire to be closely involved in the business of this growing company. It is a very fun, relaxed environment in congenial surroundings. (Ref.9492)

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For further information regarding private practice vacancies please contact: **Andrew Caulfield** or **Andy Golding** on **0171-377 0510** (01483-828110 evenings/weekends). For in-house vacancies please contact **Lisa Hicks** on **0171-377 0510** (0171-642 5237 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Zarak Macare Brenner, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171-247 5174. E-mail andrewc@zmb.co.uk

BRIEF ENCOUNTER

COMMERCIAL/MEDIA

Solicitor/barrister with relevant experience and around 4 years' pqe, sought by this entertainment company based in London. Work will involve drafting and negotiating a wide range of agreements. This is a short-term contract which, for the right candidate, may well become permanent. *Ref: 38651*

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

Progressive and much respected City firm, needs a 4-8 year qualified solicitor with corporate experience from a similar City firm environment. Immediate start, to assist with heavy workload and contract is open ended at this stage. *Ref: 38856*

NON FEE-EARNING

2+ years qualified solicitor/barrister needed for leading international law firm. Must have capital markets experience, be available immediately, and able to work within a small team. Contract for 2-3 months. *Ref: 39360*

FAMILY

General London practice with wide client base, requires a solicitor to assist with heavy workload as soon as possible. Ideally candidates must have at least 3+ years' pqe together with up-to-date divorce and child care experience. *Ref: 38537*

PLANNING

Junior planning solicitor, with no more than 4 years' pqe, sought by this City firm to undertake planning work including advocacy, negotiation of planning documentation and environmental assessment for major developments. Contract to start as soon as possible for 3-6 months. *Ref: 38396*

DOCUMENT NEGOTIATORS – DERIVATIVES

City based bank seeks a number of individuals, with previous capital markets experience, to initiate and negotiate derivatives documentation. Contract is to start as soon as possible for an indefinite period. *Ref: 38860*

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Leading company in the energy sector seeks a first class commercial property lawyer for a 2 year contract. Previous heavyweight experience essential with a minimum of 5 years' pqe. Excellent opportunity for someone who is keen to gain in-house experience. *Ref:27070*

COMMERCIAL

Solicitor/barrister, ideally with around 2-5 years' experience sought by this entertainment company based in the North West. Contract is for 3-6 months and candidates will be assisting a small team in a highly pressurized environment. *Ref: 38393*

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

London firm with strong commercial litigation practice, requires 1-4 year qualified solicitor to assist their busy department. Contract will be for 1 year, starting as soon as possible. *Ref: 34811*

EMPLOYMENT

Major consumer goods retailer seeks a 3-8 year qualified solicitor/barrister for 3 month contract. Candidates should have a mixture of contentious and non-contentious experience, with emphasis on the former. Immediate start. *Ref: 27491*

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Ref 35934 - Niru Chandra

Employment
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Ref 35967 - Niru Chandra

Telecommunications
Major City player seeks telecoms lawyers with 1-3 years' pqe; opportunity to join dynamic team and experience international work.
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- Skills in motivating a team
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- Legal qualifications
- Up-to-date knowledge of Asylum and Immigration law
- Ability to prepare legal briefings
- Policy development experience
- Skills in monitoring, reviewing and improving strategy and performance
- Legal problem-solving skills
- Ability to work to targets and tight deadlines.

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City: Top concern seeks lawyer 2-6PQE to handle banking work relating to loans, letters of credit and foreign exchange matters.

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IN-HOUSE

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City: International organisation seeks 5PQE solicitor with energy sector experience to handle project finance work.

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Media/Ent — **to £45K**
City: 2-4PQE solicitor with experience in entertainment law, particularly TV, films, and video matters sought by City firm.

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London: West End property firm seeks motivated 5PQE solicitor to handle secured lending for retail/leisure clients.

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For further information contact:
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Maureen Crawley, Personnel Advisor, British Aerospace
Royal Ordnance, Euxton Lane, Chorley, Lancs, PR7 6AD

Telephone: 01257 242402

Closing date: 21 April 1997

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EQUESTRIANISM: BUNN SEEKS IMMEDIATE INJECTION OF FUNDS TO STAVE OFF THREAT OF CLOSURE

Hickstead faces uncertain future

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

DOUGLAS BUNN, who last week announced the cancellation of the Hickstead Nations' Cup meeting because of a lack of funds, confirmed yesterday that the Royal International Horse Show, due to take place in mid-July, and the British Jumping Derby, scheduled for August, are unlikely to be run at Hickstead this year unless a sponsor can be found in "the next few weeks".

Bunn, 69, who founded the famous Sussex showground in 1960 in order to promote British showjumping, had hoped for a £400,000 "life raft" from the Sports Council to help to compensate for the loss of Silk Cut, his main sponsor, which pulled out unexpectedly in December. The money was not forthcoming and Bunn had "no option" but to cancel the Nations' Cup, which was due to take place between May 29 and June 1, to give the British Show Jumping Association time to reallocate the event. It will now take place at the Royal Windsor Horse Show in May.

If the remaining two international meetings are cancelled, the showground — the home of British showjumping and the training ground for future international riders — will close for the year. All the scheduled events, including the popular national schools championships in August, would be cancelled. The grounds and picturesque main arena — which was being dutifully mown yesterday — would be kept "ticking over" with the help of Silk Cut's £200,000 severance pay and the £50,000 gained from not having to pay rates.

Hickstead's troubles began in 1990, when the state of Dubai, a leading sponsor, pulled out because of the Gulf War. Two years later, a £1 million grant from the Sports Foundation was almost swallowed up when the Inland Revenue took £400,000 and £200,000 had to be spent on improving the stands and grounds after the Hillsborough disaster. Last December came the "bombshell", when Silk Cut, which had been contracted until 2001, switched its sponsorship to Formula One.

Bunn, who has consistently funded Hickstead from his own pocket — recently to the tune of £200,000 a year — said that he was doubtful about this year's events, but was "optimistic" about the long-term future. "It's not megabucks we need and any sponsor coming in now on a three-year contract would get a cut-price deal." The international meetings, which are televised, cost around £1 million each to stage (including the prize-money). Revenue from stabling and entry fees, trade stands, hospitality boxes and the gate account for nearly half of this figure.

Since 1960, when the entrepreneurial Bunn founded the showground with the help of W. D. & H. O. Wills, Hickstead has become a leading international venue. It has hosted world and European championships, the Nations' Cup (since 1971) and, from 1992, the Royal International Horse Show, which includes two of the sport's most coveted prizes — the King George V Gold Cup and the Queen Elizabeth II Cup.

David Broome, the chairman of the British Show Jumping Association, who won his third European title at Hickstead in 1969, said yesterday: "We've had some wonderful times at Hickstead and there have been some great competitions there — it would be a shame to lose an arena of such a high standard."



Bunn may have to close Hickstead this summer if a sponsor is not forthcoming. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

CRICKET: HEASLEY'S DISMISSAL PAVES WAY FOR KENYA TO WIN TENSE SEMI-FINAL

Ireland fall short of final target

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN KUALA LUMPUR

KENYA secured a place in the final of the ICC Trophy — and with it entry to the 1999 World Cup — when they defeated Ireland by seven runs here yesterday.

Ireland knew they would have to produce their best batting of the tournament to overhaul Kenya's 215 for eight when the first semi-final resumed at the Kilat club.

Narasimha Rao, the former India Test player who is now the Ireland batting coach, believed his side could mount a serious challenge if they saw off the opening spell of Martin Suji and kept wickets in hand for a final assault. The first objective was achieved when the outstanding bowler of the tournament was removed from the attack with figures of nought for 18 from six overs.

However, Ireland then handed back the advantage with a number of poor strokes and decisions that presented Kenya with the three or four wickets that ultimately proved the difference between glory and a place in the third-place play-off on Thursday.

Patterson, Dunlop and Benson, the captain, all got themselves out attempting to push the pace against Asif Karim, but the telling moment was a mix-up between Benson and Doak that led to the latter being run out.

Without Doak's ability to mastermind the run-chase, Ireland had to look elsewhere for inspiration and found it from the unlikely source of Heasley, the all-rounder. Heasley, who has missed much of the past two weeks after showing indifferent form in warm-up matches, hit four sixes and a couple of fours in his 51, scored off 47 balls.

Maurice Odumbe, the Kenya captain, admitted afterwards he thought the game was lost if Heasley had stayed, but he was dismissed when he hit the ball firmly into his boot, from where it rebounded back on to the stumps. At 178 for eight in the 45th over, Ireland did not have the resources to score the remaining runs off three overs and, despite two pulls by Gillespie in the last over that landed feet inside the ropes, victory was just beyond them.

Mike Hendrick, the Ireland coach, said: "We were two boundaries away from winning and I can't criticise the commitment of the players. They will have learnt a lot from that."

Kenya will now meet the winners of the second semi-final between Bangladesh and Scotland today. The losers of that game know that it will be difficult to deny Ireland third place.

Britons show no ill-effects from ten years away

An America's Cup challenge could be on the cards, **Marcus Hutchinson** reports

THE crew representing the Royal Dorset Yacht Club's challenge for the America's Cup in 2000 demonstrated talent and ability, coupled with aggressive starting by the skipper, Chris Law, to finish in second place in the Road To America's Cup regatta, which finished here at the weekend.

Law's defeat of syndicates representing New York, San Francisco and France Pacific Yacht Clubs in the opening two round-robin series suggests that an absence of more than ten years from this level of competition has not harmed the top British sailors.

Quite simply, the British crew's manoeuvering and sail-handling were a class above the other challengers. Their prize for winning the challenger section was the chance to race Team New Zealand (TNZ), the Cup-holders, in a best-of-seven series sailed in two TNZ 1992-vintage "identical twin" training boats.

The New Zealanders are unquestionably the most experienced group of America's Cup sailors today, but this did not intimidate Law's crew one bit. In their first match, Law had Russell Coutts, the world No 1 match-racer, running for cover in the pre-start. Coutts eventually crossed the line more than a length behind the British boat.

The tacking duel that followed saw Law take the right-hand side, but the patchy winds close to the shore favoured Coutts and the first crossing went to him. Approaching the top of the course, Law saw an opportunity to get back in control and slipped his boat around a length ahead of his rival.

The race then slowed down on the run as TNZ sat firmly on top of the challengers and eventually rolled them. The winning margin was 20sec, but the British had served notice of their intent.

In the second contest, the crews started evenly. Law was ahead up the beat, but rounded just behind Coutts. A bad spinnaker set by TNZ resulted in a torn sail and the well-poised Britons went through to round the next mark 18sec ahead. Two legs later, Law brought the British boat to the finish with a lead of 10sec.

Day two of the final series dawned bright and fresh, with 20 knots of breeze — more than the British had sailed in to date, but not more than they could handle. However, despite dogged persistence and active pre-starts, the dominance of the New Zealanders in the fresher breeze was telling. The Royal Dorset crew lost the next three races by 50sec, 14sec and 15sec respectively.

To have got that far was proof, if ever it was needed, that British sailors are more



Law: aggressive start

than capable of beating the best, given an equal chance, but winning a friendly series and performing well against the future defenders does not a challenge make.

Chris Witty, the head of the Royal Dorset syndicate, and his group have a lot of work to do to raise the money required to take the British challenge to the next stage — the design and build of the boats. Yet they can be encouraged that their efforts would surely be richly rewarded on the water in the long run.

Marcus Hutchinson is a yacht designer, writer and former editor of Seahorse.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This hand is from the Hubert Phillips, the National mixed teams competition. I was South, playing with Sally Brock.

Dealer North — Love all — Total points scoring

	♠A 3 ♥A 10 4 3 2 ♦A 10 8 7 5 ♣4	
♠Q 10 9 7 5 ♥Q 7 6 ♦K 3 2 ♣K 5	N W E S	♠4 ♥K 9 8 ♦Q 9 4 ♣Q J 10 9 3 2
	♠K J 8 6 2 ♥J 5 ♦J 6 ♣A 8 7 6	

Contract: Four Spades doubled, by South. Lead: king of clubs

Sally opened One Heart, East overcalled Two Clubs, I bid Two Spades, and thereafter we managed to hoist ourselves into Four Spades. West doubled and led the king of clubs.

I took the ace of clubs, played a diamond to the seven and nine, and East returned a high club. I ruffed in dummy, and played ace and another diamond, ruffing in my hand. When all followed to the ace of spades, it seemed probable that West had five spades and two clubs. So West was marked with a 5-3-3-2 shape.

I played a winning diamond from dummy, discarding a heart. West ruffed and returned a heart. I won with the ace, leaving this position, with the lead in dummy:

	♠- ♥10 4 3 2 ♦5 ♣-	
♠Q 10 9 ♥Q 7 ♦- ♣-	N W E S	♠- ♥K 9 ♦- ♣J 10 9
	♠K J 8 ♥- ♦- ♣8 7	

If I play a winning diamond from dummy and discard a losing club, West ruffs. He exits with a heart, and I make only two more tricks, for two down.

If you know this type of position, you will recognise that West has become 'trump-bound'. Instead of playing a diamond I ruffed a heart, and then exited with a club. West had to ruff one of the next two tricks, and give me the last two tricks. I was one off, a small consolation for a poor bidding performance.

☐ The 1st Mind Sports Olympiad will be held at the Royal Festival Hall, London, 18-24 August 1997. There are over 30 different events: card games include Bridge and Gin Rummy; among the board games are Backgammon, three types of Chess, Go and Scrabble. Enquiries: David Levy, telephone 0171 485 9146.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

World championship

Having denied reports that he plans to play a world championship match against Anatoly Karpov in Paris later this year, Garry Kasparov has now announced that there will be an "official world championship" to be held in Linares, Spain, next year. Breaking the tradition of a 20-game or 24-game match between the world's top two, this is planned as a four-player tournament in which each competitor meets the opposition four times. The invited players are to be Kasparov himself, Anand, Kramnik and Topalov.

Kasparov's projected format is modelled on the 1948 match tournament which resolved the world title after Alexander Alekhine had died as champion. Nevertheless, the omission of Anatoly Karpov from the prospective list of invitees is bound to create controversy. Fide, the world federation, intends to hold its own world championship as a 100-player knockout in Kalmykia towards the end of the year.

Dos Hermanos

A powerful tournament is underway in Dos Hermanos in Spain. It includes most of the world's top players, with the exception of Kasparov and Ivanchuk.

Anatoly Karpov, the Fide champion, suffered a serious setback when he lost the following game to Vladimir Kramnik. Having developed his pieces, Karpov then systematically retreated all of them to his own back rank and resigned when tactical threats of a back rank checkmate would have gained Kramnik an extra piece.

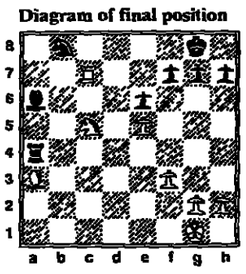
White: *Vladimir Kramnik*
Black: *Anatoly Karpov*
Dos Hermanos, April 1997

Nimzo-Indian Defence

1	Nf3	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nc3	Bb4
4	Qc2	0-0
5	a3	Bxc3
6	Qxc3	b6
7	b4	Bb7
8	Bb2	d6
9	e3	Nbd7
10	d4	Ne4
11	Qb3	a5
12	Be2	axb4
13	axb4	Rxa1+
14	Bxa1	Ndf6
15	0-0	Qd7
16	b5	Ra8
17	Bb2	c6
18	bxc6	Qxc6
19	Rc1	Nd7
20	Ne1	Qa4
21	Qxa4	Rxa4
22	f3	Ne4f6
23	Bd1	Ra2
24	Nd3	Kf8
25	Bb3	Ra8
26	e4	Nb8
27	c5	bxc5
28	dxc5	dxc5
29	Nxc5	Bc8
30	e5	Ne8
31	Be4	Nc7
32	Ba3	Kg8
33	Ne4	Rxa4
34	Rxc7	Ba6
35	Nc5	

Black resigns

Diagram of final position



SCORES AFTER FIVE ROUNDS: Judith Polgar, Anand, Kramnik 3½, Gelfand 3; Karpov, Topalov, Salov 2½, Shirov, Short 1½; Illescas 1 (four rounds remain).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

MEHTAR
a. A groom
b. A measure of length
c. Zoroastrian equanimity

LANNER
a. A table servant
b. A falcon
c. A hurdle

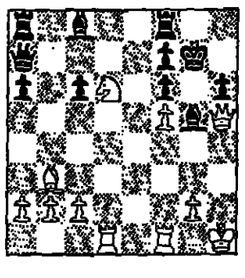
MOOLVEE
a. A scholar
b. The Persian mulberry
c. A character in *Kim*

LATHEE
a. A cudgel
b. An elephant rider
c. Spiced yoghurt

Answers on page 45

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



White to play. This position is from the game Heinemann — Richtmann, Bad Worishofen 1997. The black kingside is badly broken up and his queenside remains undeveloped. How did White exploit these factors to score a quick win?

Solution on page 45

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Milwaukee 4 Toronto 2; Chicago White Sox 5 Detroit 3; Kansas City 12 Minnesota 2; Texas 9 Baltimore 3; Oakland 3 New York Yankees 0; Seattle 6 Boston 7 (in 10 inns); Cleveland 10 Anaheim 8

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Atlanta 11 Chicago Cubs 5 (first game); Atlanta 4 Chicago Cubs 0 (second game); Florida 3 Cincinnati 2, Colorado 6 Montreal 2; Houston 3 St Louis 2, Los Angeles 6 Pittsburgh 3; Philadelphia 3 San Diego 2, New York Mets 4 San Francisco 2.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Washington 120 Boston 114; Los Angeles Clippers 103 New Jersey 96, Houston 94 Vancouver 85; Indiana 94 Minnesota 83, Chicago 110 Orlando 94; Utah 114 Golden State 100, Sacramento 113 Seattle 101; Dallas 87 Los Angeles Lakers 80

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Sheffield 86 (Cauthorn 26) Leicester 71 (Rerikmp 29); Birmingham 95 (Ross 25) Worthing 88 (Nelson 26) (OT); London Towers 81 (Lewis 19) Newcastle 97 (Blalock 34), Thames Valley 126 (Slemon 24) Hemel and Watford 94 (Robinson 21).

BOWLS

MELTON MOWBRAY: All England men's Indoor championships. Triples: First round: Bentham (A Allcock) bt Newquay (T Phillips) 20-9, Darlington (A Kirtland) bt Wymondham Dell (B Thacker) 16-10; North Walsham (D Ward) bt Bristol (J Holoday) 28-12; Teignbridge (J Wickham) bt Watford (T Francis) 16-14, South Shields (R Dykes) bt British Cellophane (D Fowkes) 21-18; South Forest (J Mills) bt Stonyhill (P Homewood) 23-13, Towerlands (R Howard) bt Arun (P Butler) 21-11; Luton (J Aitken) bt Handy Cross (M Hyde) 26-9; Desborough (P McGuinness) bt St Neots (K Masters) 19-18, Preston (R Moses) bt Barwell (T Roper) 25-7; Folkestone (G Charlton) bt Cyphers (D Williams) 26-5; Five Rivers (K Cousins) bt Moonfleet (B Patterson) 15-14; Kingsthorpe (M Sherpe) bt Tilbury (J Crawford) 18-12, Richardsons (N Brignall) bt Wey Valley (J Sussex) 16-9, Blackpool Borough (N Burrows) bt Hounslow (P Cater) 20-17, March (L Miller) bt Concordia (K Jamieson) 18-13

CRICKET

Fourth Test match

West Indies v India

ST JOHN'S ANTIGUA (*West Indies won toss*). *West Indies have scored 62 for three at luch against -- Indio*

WEST INDIES: First Innings

S L Campbell run out	10
S C Williams c Tendulkar b Kuruvilla	0
S Chanderpaul c Laxman b Kumble	24
B C Lara not out	8
C L Hooper not out	13
Extras (lb 4, nb 3)	7
Total (3 wkts)	62

FALL OF WICKETS 1-0, 2-32, 3-40

R I C Holder, †C O Browne, I R Bishop, C E L Ambrose, F A Rose, *C A Walsh

BOWLING: Prasad 10-3-16-0; Kuruvilla 9-0-33-1, Kumble 9-3-13-1; Joshi 1-0-6-0

INDIA: V V S Laxman, A D Jadeja, R S Dravid, *S R Tendulkar, S C Ganguly, M Azharuddin, S Joshi, †N R Mongia, A Kumble, A Kuruvilla, V Prasad.

Umpires S Buchnor and B C Coorav (Sri Lanka).

Sharjah Cup

Pakistan v Sri Lanka

SHARJAH (*Sri Lanka won toss*): *Sri Lanka beat Pakistan by 51 runs*

SRI LANKA

S T Jayasuriya c Waqar b Salim	67
†R S Kaluwitharana lbw b Waqar	3
M S Atapattu lbw b Waqar	0
P A De Silva c Waqar b Saqlain	134
*A Ranatunga c Wasim b Salim	1
R S Mahanama c Moin b Shahid	12
H P Tillekeratne c and b Saqlain	13
H D P K Dharmasena not out	10
Extras (b 1, lb 5, nb 2, w 3)	11
Total (7 wkts)	251

FALL OF WICKETS 1-93, 2-111, 3-137, 4-137, 5-171, 6-193.

W P U J C Vaas, M D Muralitharan, S de Silva.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 7-0-34-0; Waqar Younis 8-0-60-2; Saqlain Mushtaq 10-0-42-2; Mushtaq Ahmed 6-0-37-0; Shahid Afridi 10-0-30-1; Salim Malik 9-0-42-2.

PAKISTAN

Salid Ali c Kaluwitharana b S de Silva	15
Shahid Afridi c sub b Vaas	7
Ramiz Raja c Jayasuriya b Muralitharan	47
Salim Malik c and b Muralitharan	8
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Tillekaratne b Muralitharan	62
†Moin Khan c Mahanama b Dharmasena	19
*Wasim Akram c Kaluwitharana b Dharmasena	27
Mohammad Wasim c Kaluwitharana b Jayasuriya	1
Mushtaq Ahmed run out	2
Saqlain Mushtaq not out	4
Waqar Younis c Mahanama b Dharmasena	3
Extras (lb 1, nb 1, w 3)	5
Total (45.4 overs)	200

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-29, 3-49, 4-126, 5-158, 6-186, 7-187, 8-192, 9-198.

BOWLING: Vaas 8-0-21-1; S de Silva 7-0-28-1; Muralitharan 9-1-47-3; Dharmasena 9.4-0-27-3, P A de Silva 5-0-30-0, Jayasuriya 9-0-46-1.

ICC Trophy

Semi-final

Kenya v Ireland

KUALA LUMPUR (Ireland won toss): Kenya beat Ireland by seven runs

KENYA

A Karim b Doak	23
S K Gupta c Heasley b M W Patterson	22
†K Otieno c Harrison b McCrum	51
S Tikolo b Doak	0
*M O Odumbe run out	67
T Odoyo c A Patterson b McCrum	0
A Suji not out	29
L Onyango b McCrum	1
C O Tikolo c Dunlop b McCrum	0
Extras (b 4, lb 6, w 11, nb 1)	22
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs)	215

M Suji and H Modi did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-83, 3-83, 4-158, 5-159, 6-201, 7-215, 8-215

BOWLING: Gillespie 5-0-17-0; McCrum 9-0-51-4; Patterson 5-0-18-1; Heasley 8-0-39-0; Harrison 10-3-21-0; Doak 10-0-32-2; Curry 5-0-27-0.

IRELAND

D J Curry c L Tikolo b Odoyo	18
A D Patterson b Karim	28
*J D R Benson c Odumbe b Karim	35
A R Dunlop c Modi b Karim	1
N G Doak run out	12
D Heasley b Suji	51
G D Harrison c and b Karim	9
M W Patterson lbw b Suji	4
P G Gillespie run out	24
P McCrum c Karim b S Tikolo	3
†A T Rutherford not out	3
Extras (b 1, lb 11, w 8)	15
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs)	208

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-52, 3-64, 4-88, 5-128, 6-146, 7-170, 8-178, 9-189

BOWLING: M Suji 9-1-33-2; S Tikolo 9-1-52-1; Odoyo 10-3-41-1; A Suji 5-0-12-0; Karim 10-2-28-4; Odumbe 10-0-30-0

Umpires: N Plews and D Hair

Man of the match: M O Odumbo

FOOTBALL

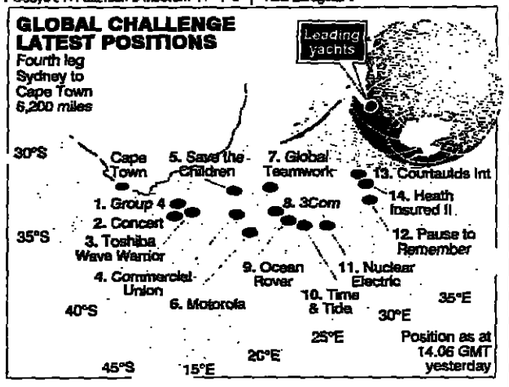
Sunday's late results

ITALIAN LEAGUE: AC Milan 1 Juventus 6.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Deportivo La Coruña 1 Real Zaragoza 0

GLOBAL CHALLENGE LATEST POSITIONS

Fourth leg
Sydney to Cape Town
6,200 miles



Position as at 14.06 GMT yesterday

DISTANCE TO FINISH (positions at 14:06 GMT with miles to Cape Town) 1, Group 4 206; 2, Concert 209; 3, Toshiba Wave Warrior 249, 4, Commercial Union 397, 5, Save the Children 403; 6, Motorola 450; 7, Global Teamwork 532; 8, 3Com 534, 9, Ocean Rover 563; 10, Time & Tide 600; 11, Nuclear Electric 682; 12, Pause to Remember 835; 13, Courtaulds Int 843, 14, Heath Insured II 847

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday April 12

Coupon No, fixture, forecast

FA PREMIERSHIP

1 Arsenal v Leicester	1
2 Blackburn v Man Utd	2
3 Derby v A Villa	X
4 Everton v Tottenham	X
5 South'pton v W Ham	2

FIRST DIVISION

6 Barnsley v Charlton	1
7 Birm'gham v Huddf'ld	1
8 Bolton v Oxford	1
9 Norwich v Stoke	2
10 P Vale v Oldham	1
11 Portsm'th v Tranmere	X
12 QPR v Grimsby	1
13 Reading v Wolves	2
14 Southend v Bradford	1
15 Swindon v Ipswich	X
16 W Brom v Man City	2

SECOND DIVISION

17 Blackpool v Bury	1
18 B'mem'th v Gillingham	X
19 Crewe v Bristol R	1
20 Millwall v Plymouth	1
21 Notts Co v Wycombe	2
22 Peterboro v Preston	1
23 Shr'sbury v Wrexham	1
24 Stockport v Burnley	X
25 Walsall v Luton	2
26 Watford v York	1

THIRD DIVISION

27 Brighton v Wigan	2
28 Cardiff v Chester	X
29 Exeter v Lincoln	1
30 Fulham v North'pton	X
31 Hartlep'l v Cambr'ge	1
32 Leyton O v Doncaster	1
33 Rochdale v Darl'gton	2
34 Scarboro v Hereford	1
35 Scunthorpe v Hull	X
36 Torquay v Barnet	2

SCOTTISH PREMIER

37 Dunfermline v Hibs	1
38 Hearts v Aberdeen	1
39 Motherwell v Rath	1

SCOTTISH FIRST

40 Airdrie v Dundee	2
41 E Fife v G Morton	2
42 Partick v St J'stone	2
43 St Mirren v Clydeb'k	1

SCOTTISH FIRST

44 Ayr v Stenh'muir	1
45 Brechin v Livingston	2
46 Dumbarton v Clyde	2
47 Hamilton v Stranraer	1
48 Q of South v Berwick	1

SCOTTISH SECOND

49 Alloa v Ross	X

DRAWS (*home teams*) Derby, Everton, Portsmouth, Swindon, Bournemouth, Stockport, Cardiff, Fulham, Scunthorpe, Alloa.

BEST DRAWS: Derby, Portsmouth, Swindon, Bournemouth, Cardiff

AWAYS: Manchester United, West Ham, Wolves, Wycombe, Wigan.

HOMES: Barnsley, Bolton, Port Vale, Queens Park Rangers, Southend, Millwall, Leyton Orient, Scarborough.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Barnsley, Bolton, Southend, Leyton Orient, Scarborough. Aways West Ham, Wolves, Clyde. Draws. *Derby, Swindon, Bournemouth*

☐ Vince Wright

GERMAN LEAGUE: SC Freiburg 1 VfB Stuttgart 1

FRENCH LEAGUE: Guingamp 1 Caen 1

WORLD CUP: African zone: Group one: Nigeria 2 Guinea 1 (in Lagos); Kenya 4 Burkina Faso 3 (in Nairobi). Group two: Liberia 1 Egypt 0 (in Accra, Ghana); Namibia 1 Tunisia 2 (in Windhoek). Group three: Congo 2 South Africa 0 (in Pointe Noire). Group four: Cameroon 1 Zimbabwe 0 (in Yaounde), Angola 3 Togo 1 (in Luanda). Group five: Gabon 0 Morocco 4 (match abandoned after 55 minutes, Libreville), Sierra Leone 1 Ghana 1 (in Freetown). Concacaf zone: Final round: Canada 0 El Salvador 0 (in Vancouver).

GOLF

ENGLISH TURN: New Orleans: Freeport-McDermott Classic: Leading final scores (United States unless stated). 272: B Faxon 68, 69, 66, 69 275: B Glasson 71, 72, 66, 66, J Parnevik (Swe) 72, 69, 68, 66 278: K Triplett 72, 68, 64, 74; S McCarron 65, 69, 71, 71 277: R Cochran 70, 71, 67, 69 278: Y Kaneko (Japan) 69, 74, 69, 66, S Lowery 72, 71, 65, 69; J M Olazabal (Sp) 72, 67, 67, 72, T Tolles 74, 71, 66, 67 279: S Hoch 68, 72, 72, 67; M Dawson 69, 73, 69, 68, J Edwards 72, 71, 67, 69, D Love III 69, 71, 70, 69, S Pate 70, 73, 67, 68, M Christie 70, 67, 71, 71, L Parker 65, 69, 72, 73 280: S Elkington (Aus) 71, 72, 69, 68, P Jacobsen 70, 71, 70, 69 281: M Standly 70, 74, 68, 69, J Kelly 69, 73, 66, 73 282: G Norman (Aus) 67, 74, 73, 68; P Blackmar 72, 71, 70, 69, B Tway 68, 72, 72, 70, F Jordan 72, 70, 70, 70, B Mayfair 68, 72, 67, 75

LINCOLN, California: LPGA Longs Challenge. Leading final scores (United States unless stated): 285: A Sorenstam (Swe) 73, 68, 71, 73 (Sorenstam won at second extra hole) P Kometani 71, 77, 67, 70 286: J Stephenson (Aus) 74, 70, 70, 72, J Inkster 72, 68, 73, 73 287: A Dibos (Spa) 73, 69, 72, 73 288: B Mucha 72, 70, 74, 72 290: A Fruhwirth 71, 73, 78, 68, D Ammaccapane 73, 74, 71, 72; D Andrews 75, 70, 70, 75. Other score: 294: C Sorenstam (Swe) 76, 73, 72, 73

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona: The Tradition: Leading final scores (United States unless stated): 268: G Morgan 68, 66, 67, 67 272: I Aoki (Japan) 66, 68, 70, 68 274: J Jacobs (GB) 68, 68, 70, 70. Other scores: 288: B Barnes (GB) 73, 69, 73, 73 289, L Trevino 74, 74, 71, 70, J Nicklaus 67, 74, 75, 73 293: A Jacklin (GB) 68, 72, 77, 76 296: G Player (SA) 71, 77, 74, 74

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Philadelphia 2 Ottawa 1, Chicago 2 Calgary 1, New Jersey 2 St Louis 0, Colorado 2 Phoenix 1

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: Glasgow 46 Hull 44, Newcastle 48 Sheffield 42

SQUASH

CARDIFF: Leekes British Open: Men's final: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt P Nicol (Scot) 17-15, 9-15, 15-12, 8-15, 15-8

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP: World Group quarter-finals: Newport Beach: United States beat Holland 4-1 (United States names first A Agassi bt S Schalken 7-6, 6-4, 7-6, J Courier bt J Siemerink 4-6, 4-6, 6-1, 7-6, 6-3, R Leach and J Stark lost to J Eltingh and P Haarhuis, 4-6, 4-6, 6-3, 3-6, Agassi bt Siemerink 3-6, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3; Stark bt Schalken 6-4, 6-0) Adelaide: Australia bt Czech Republic 5-0 Pesaro: Italy bt Spain 4-1, Vasijo: Sweden bt South Africa 3-2. Euro-African Zone: Group one: Crystal Palace: Zimbabwe bt Great Britain 4-1 Doubles: W Black and B Black bt N Broad and M Petchey 3-6, 6-1, 6-4, 6-7, 6-4 Reverse singles: B Black bt J Delgado 6-0, 6-0, 6-2; W Black bt A Richardson 6-3, 6-7, 7-6, Slovakia 3 Israel 1, Belgium 3 Denmark 2, Austria 3 Croatia 2, American zone: Group one: Second round: Canada bt Venezuela 5-0; Chile bt Argentina 3-2 Group two: Second round: Colombia bt Peru 5-0, Uruguay bt Paraguay 3-2. Play-offs: Cuba bt Puerto Rico 4-1; Haiti bt El Salvador 3-2 Asia/Oceania: Group one: Second round: New Zealand bt Indonesia 5-0; South Korea bt China 4-1 Group two: Second round: Iran bt Taiwan 4-1; Lebanon bt Thailand 5-0 Relegation play-offs: Pakistan bt Singapore 5-0; Hong Kong bt Saudi Arabia 4-1

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina: Women's tournament: Final, M Hingis (Switz) bt M Seles (US) 3-6, 6-3, 7-6

RACING: IRISH-BORN JOCKEY COMES OF AGE IN FIRST MONDAY NATIONAL AFTER TURBULENT START TO RIDING CAREER

Dobbin joins thoroughbreds

By Julian Muscat

SO VILE was Tony Dobbin's first taste of life in a racing yard that he spat it out in disgust. To be a jockey was his childhood dream, but after three days at Neville Callaghan's Newmarket stable he packed his bags as best a 15-year-old can and returned home to Northern Ireland. Yesterday, nine years later, he won the Martell Grand National and said: "I'll bet Callaghan won't even remember I was with him."

The owners of One Man and Unguided Missile — big-race winners this season — would like to forget him too. They had unceremoniously "jocked off" Dobbin; now he was riding roughshod over their collective wisdom, savouring his Grand National triumph as though to the winner's enclosure born. "That was my second ride in the race," he said. "It is the best moment of my life — up to now. I hope to ride a few yet. I'm young enough."

That last detail is almost certainly what has kept Dobbin's dream intact. His only time free of turbulence came in the 1993-94 season, which he ended as champion conditional (apprentice) rider and stable jockey to Gordon Richards's powerful yard. In November that year his route to the top looked assured when he won the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup on One Man. Then his world fell apart for the second time. Only youth's brashness has allowed him to rebuild it.

After One Man's fall at Kempton the horse's owner, John Hales, demanded a change. Soon to follow was David Harrison, the owner of Unguided Missile, and Dobbin was replaced by Richard Dunwoody on the two best horses in his stable. Rumours of his imminent departure from the Richards stable were rife, particularly when Robert Ogden, one of Richards's principal owners, employed his own jockey in Paul Carberry.

Imagine Dobbin's thoughts, then, when he rode for much of the National alongside his nemesis, Dunwoody, riding Smith's Band, who departed, fatally, at the twentieth fence. Whatever they were, he kept them to himself. "On the way round I said nothing to Dunwoody or anyone else," he said. "As far as I'm concerned all that is in the past. There was enough press about it at the time and I have just won the National."

In racing, however, the pendulum usually swings both ways. Dobbin's tribulations directly contributed to him climbing aboard Lord Gyllene yesterday. Richards yesterday saddled Buckboard Bounce, ridden, through contractual obligations by Carberry, into fourth place. But for Carberry's presence, Dobbin would have been required for that horse. Instead he came of age.

As Dobbin orchestrated the celebrations, Richards, clearly knowing his jockey, quietly reflected on his breakthrough. "It has not been an easy time. He has had to learn how to read a race but he is a cocksure lad with plenty of confidence," said the trainer, whose uncompromising manner with jockeys is legendary. "I'll have to hammer him down after this. He might even start calling me Gordon."

Doubtless remembering Richards's abhorrence of jockeys looking over their shoulder from the saddle, Dobbin had eyes only for the fences ahead. "I didn't look back until halfway up the run-in," he said. Perhaps it was just as well. In a neat vignette of his career, he had not just Dunwoody but the cream of the weighing room angling for his scalp. At various stages Jamie Osborne (Suny Bay), Norman Williamson (Master Oats) and Charlie Swan (Wylde Hide) all had their shot at him. None could conjure the freewheeling exuberance of Lord Gyllene from their tiring mounts.

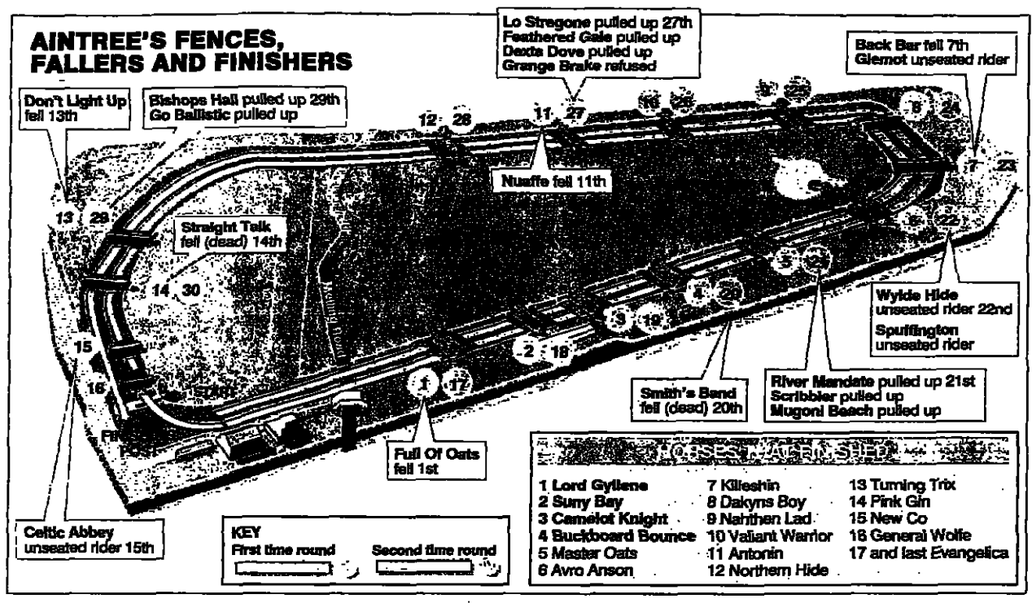
A Catholic from Downpatrick, in Co Down, Dobbin was embarrassed by his roots in the wake of the bomb scare on Saturday. "It makes you ashamed to say you are from there," he said. He was more proud of the joy victory brought to Vicki, his girlfriend of eight years, who, he says, has helped him through thick and thin.

In the aftermath of the National, his attention required in countless places simultaneously, Dobbin even had the presence of mind to request leave from his duties at Richards's stable this morning. Richards looked him sternly in the eye, as is his wont, and said nothing. Suddenly, a broad smile creased his lips and Dobbin was off, skipping through the crowds as though aware all along of his destiny. The man had finally arrived.

☐ Joe Tizzard, at 17 the youngest rider in this year's Grand National, failed to complete the course. His mount, Straight Talk, fell at the fourteenth fence and had to be put down.



Dobbin completes a famous Martell Grand National victory on Lord Gyllene



WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

2.15 Mon Bruce. 2.45 Premier Generation. 3.15 Dayrella. 3.45 Opera Buff. 4.15 Sage. 4.45 Featherstone Lane.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: **2.15 MON BRUCE.**

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

2.15 JARVIS MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,277: 6f) (10 runners)

1 (5) 0425 BARWELL BOY 13 J L Harris 9-0 ..... L Charnock 78
2 (6) CORCER ABALL S Williams 9-0 ..... S Drowne –
3 (4) 04- DANCING MYSTERY 161 E Wheeler 9-0 ..... A Daly (5) 66
4 (10) 640- DON'T WORRY MIKE 169 F Lee 9-0 ..... A Culhane 76
5 (7) GUINEAS GALORE G Lewis 9-0 ..... DOUBTFUL –
6 (2) HEVER GOLF CHARMER T Naughton 9-0 ..... S Sanders –
7 (3) 025- MON BRUCE 140 W Muir 9-0 ..... Dane O'Neill 88
8 (8) 00-0 ROCKAROUNDTHECLOCK 8 P Evans 9-0 ..... J F Egan 97
9 (9) 4 K S SUNSHINE 25 W Haggas 8-9 ..... F Lynch (3) 73
10 (1) 000- THEWRIGHTONE 137 (B) G Oldroyd 8-9 .. M McAndrew 63

9-4 Mon Bruce, 5-1 Guineas Galore, 8-1 Rockaroundtheclock, Don't Worry Mike, 7-1 Barwell Boy. Hever Golf Charmer, K S Sunshine, 8-1 others.

2.45 PHOENIX LIMITED STAKES
(£2,277: 1m 100yd) (13)

1 (11) 0310 BARBARA'S JEWEL 1 (C,G) A Bailey 5-9-9 .. S Sanders 92
2 (9) 5314 BIYA 26 (D,BF,G) D McCain 5-9-9 ..... V Slattery 80
3 (2) 0-15 SQUARE DEAL 1 (BF,D,G) S Bowring 5-9-9 .. S Webster 98
4 (6) 00- ATH CHEANNAIGHTE 84 (V,F) J Neville 5-9-7 .. S Drowne –
5 (13) 2300 DRAGONJOY 10 (B,CD,G) N Littmoden 4-9-7 .. R Lappin 88
6 (8) 055- PREMIER GENERATION 130J D Arbuthnot 4-9-7 ..... S Whitworth 86
7 (3) 226- SHAFFSHAYES 126 (D,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 5-9-7 ..... D McKeown 89
8 (4) 334- THEATRE MAGIC 115 (G) D Shaw 4-9-7 .. C Teague (3) 91
9 (12) 0-66 WHITELOCK QUEST 74 (CD,G) N Berry 5-9-7 R Perham –
10 (1) 340- PEOPLE DIRECT 155 (CD,G) K McAuliffe 4-9-4 T Ryan (7) 92
11 (5) 025- PRINCESS ERSID 157 (C,G) B McMahon 4-9-4 L Newton 90
12 (10) 00-0 QUEENS CONSUL 13 (D,F,G) R Rothwell 7-9-4 ..... F Lynch (3) 86
13 (7) 5-36 BABY JANE 15 (BF) R Guest 3-8-3 ..... A McGlone 96

4-1 Shaffshayes, 5-1 Barbara's Jewel, 6-1 Square Deal, 7-1 Queens Consul, 8-1 Princess Ersid, 10-1 Premier Generation, Baby Jane, 12-1 others.

3.15 STARBUCK HANDICAP
(3-Y-O fillies: £3,391: 7f) (7)

1 (6) 15-0 TRADING ACES 12 (G) M Bell 9-7 .. R Mullen (5) 67
2 (1) -334 FAYM 55 J Wharton 9-2 ..... J Quinn 96
3 (7) 6-41 TAYOVULLIN 7 (D,G) H Morrison 9-1 (5ex) .. C Rutter 89
4 (2) 000- DAYRELLA 173 W Muir 8-10 ..... Dane O'Neill 90
5 (4) 430- JANGLYWYVE 210 S Woods 8-8 ..... A Clark 97
6 (5) 2035 PATINA 7 (BF) R Hollinshead 8-6 .. F Lynch (3) 82
7 (3) 3630 QUALITAIR SILVER 8 J Bottomley 8-2 .. L Charnock 98

11-4 Tayovullin, 4-1 Trading Aces, 9-2 Janglywyve, 5-1 Qualitair Silver, 6-1 Faym, 7-1 Patina, 8-1 Dayrella.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Nottingham: 2.00 Bentnose. 3.30 Chadwell Hall. Wolverhampton: 2.45 Ath Cheannaithe. 4.15 Who Nose.

3.45 TONGAREVA HANDICAP
(£5,210: 1m 4f) (10)

1 (1) 600y COTTIER CHIEF 49J (D,F,B,S) J Neville 6-10-0 S Drowne –
2 (5) 3-10 OPERA BUFF 19 (CD,BF,F,G,S) Miss G Kelleway 8-8-10 A Whelan (3) 90
3 (6) 1344 HILL FARM DANCER 12 (CD,F,G) W Brisbourne 5-8-11 R Mullen (5) 93
4 (2) 1213 GREENSPAN 22 (CD,G) W Muir 5-8-4 ..... A Clark 98
5 (10) 202- TROJAN RISK 178 (F) G Lewis 4-8-2 ..... Paul Eddery 88
6 (6) 203- ETTERBY PARK 172 (CD,F,B,S) M Johnston 4-7-13 J Fanning 97
7 (7) 60-0 SWAN HUNTER 22 (G) D Cosgrove 4-7-13 ..... C Rutter 90
8 (9) 1122 RAFFLES ROOSTER 7 (D,BF,G) A Newcombe 5-7-10 Iona Wands (7) 94
9 (3) 15-1 SEDBERGH 7 (F,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-7-10 ..... J Quinn 92
10 (4) 3111 IN THE MONEY 12 (CD,F,G) R Hollinshead 8-7-10 M Henry (3) 95

11-4 In The Money, 4-1 Etterby Park, 6-1 Sedbergh, 7-1 Hill Farm Dancer, 8-1 Opera Buff, Raffles Rooster, 10-1 Greenspan, 12-1 others.

4.15 FIJI SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,277: 5f) (7)

1 (4) SAGE W E M Turner 8-11 ..... D Sweeney (5) –
2 (2) 6 THE HOBBY LOBBY 6 M Channon 8-11 ..... Paul Eddery 69
3 (3) 52 WHO NOSE 8 (B) B Meehan 8-11 ..... M Tebbutt 69
4 (7) 0 WILFRED SHERMAN 8 J Berry 8-11 ..... T Duncan (5) 82
5 (5) 5 JACK-N-JILLY 13 J Moore 8-6 ..... M Henry (5) 86
6 (6) 33 PINK TICKET 8 P Evans 8-6 ..... J F Egan 95
7 (1) ROSEWOOD LADY K Burke 8-6 ..... A Culhane –

9-4 Who Nose, 5-2 Pink Ticket, 5-1 Jack-N-Jilly, 7-1 The Hobby Lobby, 8-1 Wilfred Sherman, 10-1 Sage, Rosewood Lady.

4.45 JOHNSTON HANDICAP
(£2,277: 5f) (13)

1 (12) 2223 AFAAN 7 R Marvin 4-10-0 ..... T G McLaughlin 91
2 (13) 0-03 EFFICACY 10 (C,G) A Jarvis 6-9-12 ..... C Davies (7) 86
3 (9) 00-1 SILK COTTAGE 10 (CD,G) R Whitaker 5-9-8 D McKeown 95
4 (7) 6620 ALJAZ 15 (CD,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 7-9-5.. R Smith (7) 83
5 (5) 2042 FEATHERSTONE LANE 10 (V,CD,F,G) Miss L Siddall 5-9-5 T Siddall (7) 98
6 (11) 0300 LOCHON 7 (B,D,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 6-9-4 C Teague (3) 91
7 (2) 30-0 MAGIC LAKE 14 (F) E Alston 4-9-0 ..... S Drowne 86
8 (3) 0052 SOTONIAN 8 (CD,G) P Felgate 4-8-8 ..... D Wright 82
9 (8) 4540 BOFFY 34 (B,CD,G) B Baugh 4-8-0 ..... R Perham 90
10 (10) 0-06 STEPHENSONS ROCKET 14 (D,F,G,S) R Fahey 6-8-12 A Culhane 69
11 (4) 0305 SOUTHERN DOMINION 34 (CD,G) Miss J Cross 5-8-6 ..... S Webster 87
12 (1) 4-30 DAANIERA 61 (B,D,G,S) P Howling 7-8-2 ..... J Quinn 85
13 (6) -085 TIME TO FLY 43 B Murray 4-8-0 ..... J Egan –

5-1 Solomon, 6-1 Ajaz, Silk Cottage, 7-1 Featherstone Lane, 8-1 Efficacy, Magic Lake, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 12 winners from 51 runners, 23.5%, M Johnston, 46 from 206, 22.3%, M Bell, 10 from 48, 20.8%, R Guest, 8 from 42, 19.0%, S Woods, 9 from 51, 17.6%, W Haggas, 6 from 34, 17.6%.

JOCKEYS: D Sweeney, 7 winners from 38 rides, 18.4%, Dane O'Neill, 7 from 39, 17.9%, R Mullen, 4 from 23, 17.4%, R Lappin, 8 from 52, 15.4%, S Sanders, 37 from 295, 12.5%, S Whitworth, 15 from 127, 11.8%.

☐ Leading Irish National Hunt jockey, Shane Broderick, is to be transferred to the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Dun Laoghaire for treatment to the serious injuries he received at Fairyhouse eight days ago. Broderick has been in intensive care in the Mater Hospital with neck and spinal injuries.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Aintree
Going: good

5.00 MARTELL GRAND NATIONAL CHASE (Handicap: grade III: £178,145: 4m 4f)

1, LORD GYLLENE . .... A Dobbin, 14-1
2, Suny Bay ..... J Osborne, 8-1
3, Camelot Knight .... C Llewellyn, 100-1
4, Buckboard Bounce .. P Carberry, 40-1

ALSO RAN: 7 fav Go Ballistic (pu), 11 Wylde Hide (ur), 12 Avro Anson (6th), Smith's Band (f), 14 Antonin, Lo Stregone (pu), Nahthen Lad, 16 Feathered Gale (pu), General Wolfe, 25 Master Oats (6th), Turning Trix, 33 Dexta Dove (pu), Evangelica, Full Of Oats (f), Killeshin, 40 New Co, 50 Bishops Hall (pu), Glenmot (ur), River Mandate (pu), Straight Talk (f), Valiant Warrior, 66 Celtic Abbey (ur), Northern Hide, 100 Back Bar (f), Dakyns Boy, Don't Light Up (f), Grange Brake (r), Mugoni Beach (pu), Nuaffe (f), Pink Gin, Scribbler (pu), Spuffington (ur). 36 ran. NR Belmont King, Master Boston, Plastic Spaceage, Over The Stream. 25l, 2l, 1¼l, 1½l, 8l, S Brookshaw at Shrewsbury. Tote: £13.20; £3.40, £3.60, £24.10, £9.50. DF: £48.40. CSF: £57.64. Trio: £30,732.50 (part won. Pool of £6,716.17 carried forward to 3.30 at Nottingham today). Tricast: £9,503.36

Kelso
Going: good to firm

2.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1. JESSOLLE (R Burns, 6-5 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Nick Ross (A S Smith, 11-1); 3, Pentlands Flyer (C McCormack, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Pentland Squire (5th), 11-2 Arctic Sandy, 8 Eastcliffe (4th), 12 Danlee Amour (6th), 25 Kings Adventure, 50 Salem Beach, 66 Chain Line, 100 Amber Holly, Political Mandate. 200 Caulker. 13 ran. 1½l, 4l, 2½l, 2l, 7l. G Richards at Greyshoke. Tote: £2.40, £1.20, £2.10, £4.20. DF: £14.00. Trio: £108.20. CSF: £15.67.

2.30 (3m 1f ch) 1. GALLANTS DELIGHT (Mr A Robson, 9-2); 2, Ensign Ewart (Mr C Storey, 9-4 fav); 3, Pennine View (Mr R Ford, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Leannes Man (f). 11-2 Lothian Commodore (5th), 9 Lindon Run (f), 10 Cool Yule (4th), 16 Canister (4th), 33 Festival Fancy (f), Snook Point (pu). 9 ran. 4l, 1¼l, nk, 6l, 3½l. Mrs S Bradburne at Cuper. Tote: £3.60; £1.10, £2.30, £6.00. DF: £9.70. Trio: £57.50. CSF: £15.01. Tricast: £200.52.

4.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1. WELL APPOINTED (G Lee, 2-1), 2, Killbally Boy (C McCormack, 7-1); 3, Done Well (B Storey, 11-10 fav). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Astraleon (4th) 4 ran. 2l, 17l, 30l. B Mactaggart at Hawick. Tote: £2.40. DF: £9.10. CSF: £12.14.

4.30 (3m 1f ch) 1. NOW YOUNG MAN (Mr C Wilson, 13-2); 2, Royal Jester (Mr C Storey, 13-8 fav); 3, Kushebeloo (Mr A Parker, 5-2). ALSO RAN: 4 Dark Dawn (4th), 8 Little Wenlock (pu), 5 ran. 1¼l, 22½l, 19l. Mrs A Swinbank at Richmond. Tote: £9.30, £6.10, £1.00. DF: £11.30. CSF: £16.64

5.20 (2m 5f 110yd) 1. RASCALLY (M Foster, 8-1); 2. Dockmaster (A S Smith, 7-1); 3, Cash Box (N Smith, 3-1 fav) ALSO RAN: 9-2 Maitre De Musique, Old Habets (4th), 5 Master Hyde (f), 20 Master Of Troy (5th), 25 Allesby (6th), 100 Mullingar. 9 ran. ¾l, ¼l, 2l, 22½l, 26l. Miss L Siddall at Tadcaster. Tote: £8.10; £2.20, £1.90, £1.20. DF: £20.40. Tdc: £37.50. CSF: £53.15. Tricast: £181.96

Placepot: £83.00. Quadpot: £25.60.

Southwell
Going: standard

2.15 (7f) 1, Water Garden (M Hills, 7-2); 2, Mr Paradise (5-1); 3, Honourable (7-4 fav) 9 ran. Sh hd, 1½l. G Wragg. Tote: £4.70, £1.10, £3.00, £1.10. DF: £19.80. Trio: £5.70. CSF: £19.49

2.45 (5f) 1, Julia's Relative (R Fitrench, 11-10 fav), 2, Bon Guest (7-2); 3, Sharp Holly (20-1) 8 ran. 1¾l, 4l. R Guest. Tote: £1.90; £1.00, £2.10. £5.90. DF: £3.60. CSF: £4.66.

3.15 (1m) 1, Jibereen (S Whitworth, 12-1); 2, Young Annabel (11-1), 3, Bagshot (9-1); 4, Noble Canonire (20-1). Square Deal 7-1 fav. 16 ran. Nk, 3l. P Howling. Tote: £14.90; £3.20, £3.10, £4.20, £2.50. DF: £61.60. Tce: £366.70. CSF: £135.27. Tricast: £1,171.47.

3.45 (7f) 1, The Barnsley Belle (D Pears, 7-1), 2, Desert Invader (6-1 fav), 3, Cats Bottom (7-1) 15 ran. NR: Sweet Mate 4l, 2½l. J Eyre. Tote: £5.40, £1.90, £2.60. £1.30. DF: £30.00. Tce: £37.00. CSF: £41.08.

4.15 (1m 4f) 1, Grand Cru (D Denby, 15-2); 2, Pharly Dancer (9-4 fav); 3, One Of The Rail (3-1) 10 ran. NR: Carrolls Marc, 1¼l, 1¾l. R Craggs. Tote: £10.00; £2.30, £1.10, £2.30. DF: £9.20. Tce: £9.40. CSF: £23.41

4.45 (1m 3f) 1, Brocture Line (A Culhane, 11-2); 2, Touch'n'go (7-4 fav); 3, Bonne Ville (11-1), 11 ran. Nk, 3l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £8.10; £1.80, £1.60, £2.70. DF: £11.70. Tce: £151.60. CSF: £15.45. Tricast: £102.38

Jackpot: not won (pool of £21,484.67 carried forward to Nottingham today).

Placepot: £17.20. Quadpot: £19.30.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: SHAWM
(4.00 Nottingham)
Next best: Chadwell Hall
(3.30 Nottingham)

NOTTINGHAM

THUNDERER

2.00 Kickonsun
2.30 Mishraak
3.00 Tajrebah
3.30 Chadwell Hall
4.00 **MARCH CRUSADER** (nap)
4.30 Mezzoramio

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 **BERNARDO BELLOTTO** (nap). 3.00 Silent Miracle. 4.00 Shawm.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .. B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.00 LANGWITH SELLING HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £1,985: 1m 1f 213yd) (15 runners)

101 (1) 343050 ROCHEA 8 (J Teasdale) Mrs N Macauley 9-7 ..... M Fenton 90
102 (10) 54306-0 SPONDULICKS 8 (U Loczo) B Baugh 9-4 ..... R Price 88
103 (7) 304- SIDNEY THE KIDNEY 116 (A Brown) M Ryan 9-3 ..... G Carter 84
104 (9) 00-0 BENTNOSE 97 (B) (Clearview Partnership) D Morris 9-1 ..... D Biggs 78
105 (6) 4040-40 MISS BARCELONA 36 (M Polglase) M Polglase 8-11 ..... T G McLaughlin 69
106 (5) 465135 MIRROR FOUR SPORT 10 (G) (M Johnston) M Johnston 8-11 .. N Pollard (7) 97
107 (15) 005- HELLO THERE 188 (C Tinkler Sr) N Tinkler 8-11 ..... Kim Tinkler –
108 (8) 62400-3 RISCATTO 48 (F Hope) W Muir 8-9 ..... J Reid 85
109 (3) 005-0 CONTROL FREAK 12 (E Young) A Foster 8-5 ..... T Sprake 85
110 (12) 50000- CAPTAIN FLINT 130 (Mrs G Wood) A Smith 8-5 ..... M Birch 85
111 (14) 030005- FOOLISH FLUTTER 166 (J Swailes) R Bastaman 8-1 ..... Dale Gibson 82
112 (13) 0000- TOP TIFFER 210 (G Smith) A Foster 7-11 ..... R Fitrench (7) 87
113 (11) 06-0 KICKONSUN 13 (R Fahey) R Fahey 7-10 ..... F Norton –
114 (4) 000- MECHLIE 137 (S Green) J Payne 7-10 ..... G Bardwell –
115 (2) 0006 PATRICK 12 (T Pearson) D Barchell 7-10 ..... C Cogan (7) 95

Long handicap: Mechlie 7-5, Patrick 7-1.

BETTING: 7-2 Minor Four Sport, 4-1 Riscatto, 7-1 Spondulicks, 10-1 Rochea, Foolish Flutter, 12-1 Miss Barcelona, Control Freak. 14-1 others

1996: ESPERTO 8-1 G Bardwell (7-1) J Pearce 15 ran.

FORM FOCUS

ROCHEA 15l 10th of 18 to Freedom Chance in handicap here (1m, good to firm) SPONDULICKS 12l 11th of 12 to Count Tony in handicap at Warwick (1m 3l, good to firm) SIDNEY THE KIDNEY 11l 4th of 8 to Supreme Maestoso in auction maiden at Lingfield (AW, 7f). MIRROR FOUR SPORT 4¼l last of 3 to Kaddasheen Tor in selling handicap at Lingfield (AW, 1m 4f) on penultimate start. RISCATTO head and 2½l 3rd of 6 to Baileberough Boy in seller at Wolverhampton (AW, 1m 100yd) CONTROL FREAK 20l 7th of 12 to Achal Invader in seller at Leicester (7f, good to firm). FOOLISH FLUTTER 14½l 5th of 8 to Supreme Sound in auction maiden over course and distance (good). Selection: FOOLISH FLUTTER

2.30 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND CINDERHILL MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,204: 5f 13yd) (10 runners)

201 (5) 2 BERNARDO BELLOTTO 10 (R Green (Fine Paintings)) M Bell 9-0 . Pat Eddery 69
202 (10) BLAKESET (Mrs C Parker) R Hannon 9-0 ..... R Hughes –
203 (1) MEANS BUSINESS (Thurloe Thoroughbreds II) B Meehan 9-0 ..... M Tebbutt –
204 (8) MISHRAAK (H al Maktoum) R Armstrong 9-0 ..... R Hills –
205 (4) RUZEN (Free To Follow) B Palling 9-0 ..... T Sprake –
206 (2) 3 TIPPITT BOY 10 (Highgrove Developments Ltd) K McAuliffe 9-0 W J O'Connor 97
207 (6) BLUSHING VICTORIA (P Dunn) M Meade 8-9 ..... D Sweeney (5) –
208 (1) 6 DAWN PATROL 5 (Avalon Stud Ltd) K Hogg 8-9 ..... K Darley –
209 (3) MAGICAL DANCER (Mrs N Dalfield) Mrs P Dalfield 8-9 ..... D Holland –
210 (9) MISS ALI ALONE (B Easdon) J Glover 8-9 ..... G Carter –

BETTING: 7-4 Bernardo Bellotto, 9-2 Tippit Boy, 5-1 Blakeset, 6-1 Mishraak, 8-1 Ruzen, 10-1 Means Business, 12-1 Dawn Patrol, 14-1 others

1996: WEET EES GIRL 8-9 L Dettori (14-1) P Evans 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

BERNARDO BELLOTTO 14¼l 2nd of 5 to Wrekin Pilot in maiden at Kempton (5f, good) with TIPPITT BOY 14½ 3rd. BLAKESET (traded Feb 6, cost 42,000ngns). Half-brother by Mollyan to Fleur De Tak, fairly useful multiple winner over hurdles, dam unraced. MEANS BUSINESS (Apr 5, 15,000gns). Half-brother by Imp Society to several winners here and abroad including Clearwater Lady, fairly useful 7f juvenile winner in Ireland and Papola, fair 6f juvenile winner, dam placed over 7f in Ireland. MISHRAAK (Mar 3, 40,000gns) Second foal by Mujtahid; dam multiple winner in Italy. BLUSHING VICTORIA (Jan 17, 3,400gns) Second foal by Waldmeister; dam of little account. DAWN PATROL 7l 6th of 10 to Prince Foley in auction maiden at Leicester (5f, firm).
Selection: BERNARDO BELLOTTO

3.00 FLYING HORSE MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O fillies: £3,359: 5f 13yd) (7 runners)

301 (4) 006-00 AQUATIC QUEEN 12 (J Johnston) R Weaver 8-11 ..... M Wigham 54
302 (6) 5-4 CORINCHU 8 (Mrs P Williams) S Margarson 8-11 ..... S Carter 72
303 (1) 426-4 LAMARITA 13 (Park Lane Racing/Mrs D A La Trobe) J Eustace 8-11 R Cochrane 93
304 (2) MOUCHE (M Saramondo) Mrs J Ramsden 8-11 ..... J Fortune –
305 (3) 40- SANG D'ANTIBES 172 (Camelot Racing) D Cosgrove 8-11 ..... M Rimmer 89
306 (5) 0-3 SILENT MIRACLE 17 (M Khan) M Bell 8-11 ..... M Fenton 69
307 (7) 003- TAJREBAH 152 (H al Maktoum) P Walwyn 8-11 ..... R Hills 85

BETTING: 2-1 Silent Miracle 3-1 Tajrebah, 4-1 Mouche, 5-1 Lamarita, 8-1 Sang D'Antibes, 10-1 Corinchu, 33-1 Aquatic Ocean

1996: SPLICING 8-11 M Hills (3-1 fav) W Haggas 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

AQUATIC QUEEN 23l 7th of 8 to Dust Dancer in maiden at Leicester (7f, good to firm). CORINCHU about 9l 4th of 7 to Mile High in auction maiden over course and distance (good to firm) LAMARITA about 6l 4th of 11 to Wee Dram in auction maiden at Folkestone (6f, good). SANG D'ANTIBES 35l last of 9 to Al Muallem in maiden at Catterick (6f, good). SILENT MIRACLE 11¼l and neck 3rd of 8 to Calidaw Star in maiden at Doncaster (6f, good to firm). TAJREBAH 31¼l 3rd of 13 to Alaga in maiden at Leicester (6f, good)
Selection: SILENT MIRACLE

☐ Walter Swinburn returns to the saddle at Nottingham today. The three-time Derby-winning jockey rides Spy Knoll for Michael Stoute in the Lowdham Maiden Stakes. Swinburn delayed his start to the 1997 season until the completion of a court case.

3.30 BAGTHORPE HANDICAP
(£3,382: 6f 15yd) (22 runners)

401 (5) 05-5330 WILL DO 15 (A Smith) M Meade 4-10-0 ..... J Reid 83
402 (6) 2-40502 CHADWELL HALL 7 (V,C,D,F,G,S) (D Bowring) S Bowring 5-9-12 .. K Slead (7) 96
403 (2) 00000-0 CROSS THE BORDER 14 (F) (P Savill) D Nicholls 4-9-12 ..... Alex Greaves 97
404 (11) 000200- BEAU VENTURE 109 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Stacey) B Palling 9-9-8 ..... T Sprake 88
405 (20) 124623- FAIRY PRINCE 235 (D,F) (H Murphy) Mrs A King 4-9-6 ..... K Fallon 88
406 (18) 050-350 SING WITH THE BAND 8 (F,G) (D Allen) B McMahon 5-9-4 ..... K Darley 97
407 (9) 14260-5 POINTER 8 (D,F,S) (In For The Crack) Mrs P Dalfield 5-9-2 ..... D Holland 95
408 (3) 00000-4 GORETSKI 12 (D,BF,F,G) (P Savill) N Tinkler 4-9-2 ..... Kim Tinkler 90
409 (4) 00005-0 FAME AGAIN 13 (G,S) (Mrs J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 5-9-0 ..... J Fortune –
410 (12) 34630-0 ZAIN DANCER 12 (S Aitken) D Nicholls 5-8-11 ..... Dale Gibson 91
411 (15) 6-00064 SOUND THE TRUMPET 13 (G) (Mrs J Nicholls) R Spicer 5-8-11 .. R Havlin (3) 94
412 (13) 00/0800- MAGIC MELODY 182 (First Chance Racing) J Spearing 4-8-10 .. J Weaver 96
413 (14) 5640-00 DASHING DANCER 13 (S Nicholls) D Shaw 5-8-10 ..... G Carter –
414 (19) 3-54 MAGAZINE GAP 47 (Mrs A Sanders) Pat Mitchell 4-8-9.. Amanda Sanders (5) 93
415 (16) 000- GAY BREEZE 161 (Mrs V McGeough) P Felgate 4-8-1 ..... G Hind –
416 (1) 04000-0 MERANTI 13 (J Watts) J Bradley 4-8-1 ..... R Fitrench (7) 87
417 (8) 00505-3 COLLEGE NIGHT 13 (Mrs C Dunnett) C Dwyer 5-8-0 ..... M Varley 86
418 (10) 014550- GREY KINGDOM 130 (F) (M Britain) M Britain 6-7-13 ..... D Mernagh (7) 84
419 (21) 0-00000 MAYSIMP 34 (Mrs J Chrimes) B Baugh 4-7-12 ..... P Clarke (7) –
420 (7) 100000- MISS CAROTTENE 141 (D,G) (M Ryan) M Ryan 4-7-11 ..... G Bardwell –
421 (17) 54-5460 MARGARETROSE ANNA 24 (F Dobby) B Baugh 5-7-10 ..... J Bramhill (5) 90
422 (22) 010436 INTO DEBT 40 (G) (Mrs J Dace) J Poulton 4-7-10 ..... A McCarthy (7) 88

Long handicap: Into Debt 7-7

BETTING: 7-1 Fame Again, 8-1 Painter, 10-1 Chadwell Hall, Magazine Gap, 12-1 Cross The Border, Sing With The Band, Sound The Trumpet, 14-1 others.

1996: TYMEERA 3-8-13 T Sprake (14-1) B Palling 22 ran

FORM FOCUS

WILL DO 29¼l 3rd of 6 to Genuine John in maiden handicap at Southwell (AW, 7f) on penultimate start. CHADWELL HALL neck 2nd of 14 to Dazwa in handicap at Southwell (AW, 5f) SING WITH THE BAND 7¼l 6th of 13 to Napoleon Star in handicap at Warwick (5f, good to firm) POINTER 10¼l 5th of 16 to Eastern Prophets in handicap at Kempton (6f, good to firm) GORETSKI 31¼l 4th of 13 to Chemcast in handicap at Musselburgh (5f, soft) with ZAIN DANCER (11lb better off) 18¼l 13th. FAME AGAIN 8¼l 8th of 19 to Forst in handicap at Catterick (7f, good). SOUND THE TRUMPET about 31¼l 4th of 16 to Sharp 'n Smart in handicap at Folkestone (7f, good). MAYSIMP 13l 12th of 13 to Gil La High in handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 5f)
Selection: POINTER

4.00 LOWDHAM MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £4,219: 1m 54yd) (18 runners)

501 (16) FINAL WARNING (E Carter) J Banks 9-0 ..... M Wigham –
502 (5) 0- GOLD CLIPPER 160 (P Axon) M Ryan 9-0 ..... N Day –
503 (17) LATALOMINE (Maktoum al Maktoum) E Dunlop 9-0 ..... D O'Donohoe (3) –
504 (8) MARCH CRUSADER (Maktoum al Maktoum) B Hanbury 9-0 .. W Ryan –
505 (18) MUHAWWIL (H al Maktoum) R Armstrong 9-0 ..... R Hills –
506 (9) MUMARIS (H al Maktoum) A Stewart 9-0 ..... M Roberts –
507 (7) NOBEL LAD (J Hartnett) J Dunlop 9-0 ..... T Sprake –
508 (4) 4- OCCAM 161 (H Morriss) G Wragg 9-0 ..... M Hills 84
509 (11) 6 PEN FRIEND 12 (B Haggas) W Haggas 9-0 ..... R Cochrane 79
510 (6) 500332- SELECT CHOICE 169 (L Forst) A Jarvis 9-0 ..... W J O'Connor 94
511 (1) SHAHEEN (The Thoroughbred Corporation) H Cecil 9-0 ..... K Fallon –
512 (12) 3- SHAWM 160 (Sheikh Mohammed) D Loder 9-0 ..... K Darley 94
513 (14) 64- SPY KNOLL 175 (J Richmond-Watson) M Stoute 9-0 ..... W R Swinburn 94
514 (10) 0- WILD CITY 316 (A Ali) B Hanbury 9-0 ..... M Rimmer –
515 (2) 0- EPWORTH 165 (B Farr J Glover 8-9 ..... G Carter 91
516 (15) RECKLESS (J Blanchi) J Banks 8-9 ..... J Stack –
517 (13) 5- SILVER JUBILEE 344 (Calzaro And Hudd's) B Palling 8-9 ..... D Holland –
518

Oliver Holt meets Andreas Moller, the destroyer of English dreams

Demon aims to torment Red Devils

MICHAEL URBAN



Möller faces the Germany fans after scoring the penalty that took his country into the final of the European championship last July

Matthias Sammer, the European Footballer of the Year, is sitting at a small, plastic-topped table reading a newspaper. Karlheinz Riedle is standing in a corridor signing the last of a long row of autographed footballs that are lined up on a rack and Steffen Freund is pulling on a tracksuit top ready for training. In another corner of the room at the Borussia Dortmund training camp, Andreas Möller has his hand on his heart.

Möller is beating the palm of his hand against his chest in rapid movements, trying to show how his pulse was racing, how the adrenalin was pumping, on that balmy London night nine months ago when he fired Germany's sixth penalty high into the England net and ended a nation's hope that the European championship trophy was "coming home". To an English ear, his recollections still sound like an executioner's song.

"When Köpke saved Gareth Southgate's penalty, my heart started beating very fast," Möller said, "and it seemed like a long time until I put the ball on the spot. In those seconds, I just kept saying to myself 'you are going to score'. Then, when it went in, it was a strange, wonderful thing. I just felt free.

"I did not speak to Southgate afterwards, but I have seen the commercial with *Pizza Hut* and I thought that was a great idea. I love that kind of sense of humour. Even the English people I met on holiday in Majorca after the finals were laughing with me about the penalty and wishing me good luck for the future. I met the Aston Villa chairman there and he gave me his card."

Providing that the muscle spasms in his legs that have forced him to consult a specialist in Frankfurt do not keep him out of the game, Möller will try to destroy another English dream tomorrow night. In the absence of the suspended Sammer, Möller will be the key player in Borussia Dortmund's attempt to establish a commanding lead over Manchester United in the first leg of their European Cup semi-final.

He is disappointingly likeable and unreservedly modest for a man who has risen almost as high as Diego Maradona and Ronald Koeman in the ranks of English international football's demonology. His strut towards the Germany fans after the penalty shoot-out at Wembley with his shorts hitched up high was as much a symbol of England's exit as Southgate's despair.

Worse still, for those who would love to hate him, he is a confirmed Anglophile, an admirer of our culture, our humour and our footballing sportsmanship. "The game is strong but fair in England," he said. "You lose a game and everybody still shakes hands at the end."

Tomorrow, that will count for nothing. Möller's career has been sprinkled with honours, from the World Cup win in 1990 to being part of the Juventus team that won the Uefa Cup in 1993 to helping Dortmund win two consecutive *Bundesliga* titles. Yet he wants still more.

The midfield *spielmacher*, or playmaker, of the team, he usually occupies a position just behind the front two of Riedle and Stephane Chapuisat, breaking quickly from midfield, invigorated by the cheers of the partisan crowds he says were one of his main reasons for returning to the *Bundesliga* from *Serie A*.

This season, together with Sammer, he has inspired Dortmund in their chase for a third successive title. Their 2-0 home win in a Ruhr Valley derby with VfL Bochum on Saturday moved them up to second in the table, three points behind Bayern Munich. When the team trains, usually in front of more than 1,000 fans at a new, purpose-built facility, it is these two men whose names the supporters call out.

Möller, 29, who cost Dortmund more than £3 milllion when they brought him back from Juventus, says that both ties will be close, that Dortmund will suffer from the loss of Sammer but that they will not be disavantaged by having to play the home leg first. More than anything, he is keen to stress that this is not Andreas Möller v England — part two.

"This is not the same," he said. "Manchester United is different. Before, it was the national team, but now this is Borussia Dortmund. No one has even joked with me that I must do to them what I did to England. That is finished now. In football, things move on every day; every day brings a new situation.

"What is important about this meeting, though, is that, apart from Bayern Munich and Aston Villa, I can hardly remember a German team and an English team playing against each other in European club competition. Both Manchester United and Borussia Dortmund have been very strong in the last five years and I think, for European football, this will be a great semi-final.

"We have a chance this season to win our third successive *Bundesliga* title and we know that Manchester United are at the top of the Premiership again. These two games will be very hard and very strong. It is 50-50 to see who goes through. I do not see any favourite."

SQUASH

Nicol earns Jansher's praise after marathon

By Colin McQuillan

JANSHER KHAN'S victory over Peter Nicol in the final of the Leekes British Open championship in Cardiff late on Sunday evening may have been the most statistically significant match in the 67-year history of the game's greatest tournament.

Nicol, who celebrated his 24th birthday by reaching his first final, had never before advanced beyond the first round. "My greatest delight is in having broken a five-year jinx that may allow me to treat the British Open as the highlight of the year instead of a dreaded threat," the left-hander from Inverurie, in Scotland, said. "But I should have won it to make it perfect."

Jansher won 17-15, 9-15, 15-12, 8-15, 15-8 in 126 minutes. It was his sixth successive victory in the event and the longest match that the Pakistani, 27, could recall in his ten-year career on the Professional Squash Association (PSA) World Tour. It was also the first time that he had been forced to a fifth game in a British Open final.

The 15-point American scoring system was adopted by the PSA as much to reduce the workload on players as to increase entertainment, yet the longest match on record, between Jahangir Khan and Gamal Awad at Chichester in 1983, was played under the standard international nine-point, hand-in and hand-out scoring system and lasted only 20 minutes longer than the final on Sunday.

"This was not my toughest British Open final," Jansher said. "Some of the Australians made me work harder, but Peter played the best squash I have seen from him and I won only because I was strong mentally and physically for the fifth game.



Jansher: sixth title

"If I had played as badly as I did in the semi-finals against Ahmed Barada, then Peter would be British Open champion today."

Played in front of an excited crowd that was willing Nicol on — although with the usual vocal Pakistani support that Jansher attracts wherever he plays — the match was a fast, thrilling spectacle, slightly marred by the apparent determination of Brian Gurnett, the referee, to control Jansher's increasing tendency to linger marginally in the path of his opponent and to widen his racquet swing.

Gurnett called 32 penalty strokes, 83 lets and 16 no-lets. "He also gave Peter strokes while I was getting lets," Jansher said. "There were so many in the fourth game I gave up and concentrated on winning the fifth."

In the women's final at Cardiff, Michelle Martin won her fifth successive title by defeating her Australian compatriot, Sarah Fitz-Gerald, the No 1 seed and world champion, 9-5, 9-10, 9-5, 9-5 in 66 minutes.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
* denotes all-ticket match

Uefa Cup
Semi-finals, first leg
Tenerife v Schalke 04 (9.0)
Internazionale v AS Monaco (7.45)

Nationwide League
First division
Oldham v Birmingham (7.45)

Second division
* Bristol Rovers v Millwall
Bury v Walsall (7.45)
Chesterfield v Watford (7.45)
Luton v Wycombe (7.45)
Plymouth v Stockport (7.45)
Wrexham v Rotherham
York v Peterborough

Third division
Barnet v Scunthorpe (7.45)
Cambridge Utd v Northampton (7.45)
Darlington v Carlisle
Doncaster v Cardiff
Mansfield v Fulham (7.45)
Wigan v Colchester (7.45)

Vauxhall Conference
Dover v Stevenage (7.45)
Southport v Morecambe (7.45)
Woking v Bromsgrove (7.45)

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Cambridge City v Nuneaton (7.45), Crawley v Merthyr, Gravesend and Northfleet v Burton Albion (7.45) Sudbury Town v Ashford. Midland division: Bilston v Moor Green, Ilkeston v Paget R Rothwell v Grantham; Sutton Coldfield Town v Dudley Town Southern division: Buckingham Town v Fisher London, Tonbridge Angels v Fareham; Trowbridge v Cirencester Town; Weymouth v St Leonards.
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Bamber Bridge v Colwyn Bay; Bangor v Altrincham; Marine v Frickley; Witton v Emley First division: Atherton L.R. v Netherfield; Flixton v Congleton, Gretna v Whitley Bay; Harrogate Town v Matlock Town, Warrington v Great Harwood; Workington v Curzon Ashton, Worksop v Bradford Pk Ave
ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Chertsey v Boreham Wood, Hendon v Grays (7.45), Oxford City v Heybridge, St Albans v Yeading, Yeovil v Staines (7.45) First division: Barton Rovers v Bognor Regis, Basingstoke v Walton and Hersham, Berkhamsted v Hampton, Maidenhead Thame, Tooting and Mitcham v Chesham Uxbridge v Worthing, Wokingham v Billericay Second division: Banstead v Leighton Town Bracknell v Barking; Cheshunt v Tilbury, Collier Row and Romford v Edgware, Horsham v H Hempstead; Ware v Chalfont St Peter Third division: Aveley v Clapton; Wealdstone v Northwood Full members Cup: Semi-final: Maidenhead v Sutton United
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: West Ham v Swindon (at Dagenham & Redbridge FC, 2.0).
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: First division: Sheffield Utd v Blackpool (7.0), Notts County v Middlesbrough (7.0)
GILBERT LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City v Barry, Llansantffraid v Holywell, Rhyl v Flint Town
FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Shelbourne v UCD (7.45)
IRISH LEAGUE COCA-COLA FLOODLIT CUP: Final: Glenloran v Glenavon (at Windsor Park, Belfast)
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Deal v Greenwich, Hythe v Chatham; Whitstable Town v Herne Bay
SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Chard v Bideford, Mangotsfield v Tiverton; Paulton R v Chippenham; Torrington v Barnstaple
LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Brimsdown v Barkingside; Hillingdon Boro v Cockfosters
MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Arlesey v Bedford, Letchworth v Royston; Potters Bar v Welwyn Garden
ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Bolehall S v Southam; Kings Heath v Knowle, Studley Bkl v Shirley.
HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Banbury v Brackley, Burnham v Bicester, Carterton v Lambourn Sports; North Leigh v Endsleigh.
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester-le-Street v Gusborough, Stockton v South Shields
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Burscough v Nantwich Town Floodlit Trophy: Semi-finals, first legs: Bootle v Penrith; Newcastle Town v Vauxhall G M
ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Concord Rangers v Brentwood, Ford United v Bowers.
BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Westfields v Bloxwich S.
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Fakenham v Lowestoft; Gorleston v Tiptree; Great Yarmouth v Woodbridge Town, Hadleigh U v Clacton; Harwich and Parkeston v Stowmarket; March v Warboys, Sudbury v Wisbech; Wroxham v Walton
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Bemerton Heath v Eastleigh, Thatcham Town v Ryde Sports.
UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Potton v Eynesbury; St Neots v Desborough, S and L Corby v Stamford.
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Burgess Hill v Selsey; Hailsham v Hassocks; Oakwood v Ringmer
INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Bloxwich Town v Willenhall; Halesowen H v Rocester; Knypersley V v Boldmere St M, Pelsall V v Blakenhall; Rushall O v Chasetown, Stapenhill v Stratford T, W Mid Police v Hinckley Athletic
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: North Ferriby v Liversedge, Thackley v Sheffield League Cup: Semi-finals: Hucknall Town v Brigg Town, Ponteland Colleries v Ossett Town
FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National division: Millwall Lionesses v Croydon Ladies (at Fisher FC, 7.45)

RUGBY UNION

Courage Clubs Championship
First division
Gloucester v Leicester (7.45)

RUGBY LEAGUE

First division
Hull K R v Huddersfield (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Men's British championships (at Melton Mowbray).
SPEEDWAY: Speedway Star Cup: King's Lynn v Eastbourne (7.45), Poole v Peterborough (7.30) Premier League Knockout Cup: Hull v Glasgow (7.30); Long Eaton v Reading (7.30)

Hoddle backing United to make final breakthrough

From Oliver Holt, football correspondent, in Dortmund

THE Manchester United team arrived here yesterday to begin preparations for the first leg of the European Cup semi-final against Borussia Dortmund tomorrow night looking happy and relaxed after the reprieve of Liverpool's loss to Coventry City in the FA Carling Premiership. They were warmed, too, by some timely words of encouragement from Glenn Hoddle, the England coach.

Hoddle, who believes that the national squad is already benefiting from the European experience gained by players such as David Beckham, David May, Nicky Butt and Gary Neville, thinks that United have learnt from their reverses against Juventus earlier in the competition and that they can lift the trophy.

"You learn more from the downsides than you do from the peaks," Hoddle said. "United have done that by bouncing back from the defeats against Juventus and they have grown in stature. If they played Juventus in the final this season, it would be closer than close because United will feel they are an improved side and have a much better opportunity of beating them.

"Beckham and Gary Neville are just two examples of players who have grown and learnt very quickly this season. I think United will win the Premiership and, whatever happens in Europe, I think this season's experiences abroad will make them better equipped to win the Champions' League next season.

"They have a good chance of getting to the final this season, but next season it should look ever better for them. They have got other youngsters like Solskjaer who looked out of their depth in their earlier performances, but who have grown into the role now and who are ready for anything."

The United players arrived at Düsseldorf airport yesterday afternoon before making the hour-long coach journey to their hotel here. They will train today to face a team that won the *Bundesliga* derby against VfL Bochum on Saturday but had their most influential player, Matthias Sammer, sent off. Sammer, the European footballer of the year, is already suspended from the match tomorrow.

"Having Sammer out is going to be a hell of a blow for Dortmund," Hoddle said, "particularly the fact that they have lost him for the home leg. That is where they would have been looking for him to break out from the back and cause United problems. They rely on him and he is effective in everything he does. With him out, I have a gut feeling that United can come away with a result.

"It is all about getting everyone to perform together for one match and I think they will be in Dortmund with the same attitude they took to Porto. They showed maturity there in the second leg and weathered the early storm. They did the job out there without really leaving third gear and that will give them confidence."



Hoddle: encouragement

League chairman urges clubs to help themselves

By Russell Kempson

DAVID SHEEPSHANKS, the chairman of the Football League, was elected just three months ago, yet launched an immediate offensive aimed at modernising the 72-club set-up that he had inherited. Yesterday, he appealed to his members to help themselves rather than indulge in mass self-pity.

As the FA Carling Premiership wallows in its wealth, Sheepshanks, also chairman of Ipswich Town, urged the League clubs to look nearer to home for a solution. "It is only natural that we may cast a jealous eye at the fantastic riches of the Premiership," he said, "but it is not only the huge gap in income that affects us.

"Even more tangible and damaging is the inflation in operating costs ahead of income growth. This is directly attributable to the knock-on effect of large salary increases paid in the Premiership, but our response must be to adapt in a positive and proactive way."

The League has appointed independent commissioners to examine every aspect of life in the lower divisions. They are expected to report their recommendations early next month.

"Whatever we generate centrally needs to be augmented by stronger, more robust, individual units," Sheepshanks said. "We need to encourage greater self-reliance for clubs. We must address the key question of vaibility. We must seek to modernise, economise and maximise to make ends meet and to make profits for reinvestment."

The League is also to continue lobbying in an effort to retain its traditional place in the Uefa Cup for the winners of the Coca-Cola Cup, which is under threat from next season.

In the Premiership itself, the war of words rages on about whether it should extend its season beyond May 11. Manchester United have led the case for, with Alex Ferguson, the United manager, particularly passionate in his argument.

With United facing a fixture backlog, because of their involvement in the European Cup, Ferguson has requested that they should be able to play their final fixture, against Newcastle United, after the rest of the Premiership programme has been completed.

Bryan Robson, whose Middlesbrough side face similar problems, has backed United. "It's getting ridiculous," the Middlesbrough manager said. "I would prefer to see the season extended."

However, Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, yesterday supported the views of Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager. "It would be totally out of order for one club to play a game in isolation," Evans said. "You can't shift the goalposts at this stage of the season. You have to be fair to all clubs, big or small."

The grounds of Macclesfield Town, Kidderminster Harriers and Stevenage Borough, the leading clubs in the Vauxhall Conference, have been passed fit for League football next season.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

MEHTAR
(a) In Persia: originally, the title of certain great officers of the royal household. Then a groom or stable-boy. In Bengal: a housesweeper and scavenger; the lowest of the menial house-servants. In Urdu *mehtar* a head man or prince. 1662: "The King would have kill'd him, if a Mehtar, or Gentleman belonging to his Chamber had not prevented him."

LANNER
(b) A species of falcon, found in countries bordering on the Mediterranean, *Falco lanarius* or *Falco feldeggi*. In Falconry, the female of this species. Longfellow, *Wayside Inn*. *Crew Long Serpent*, 1860: "Downward fluttered sail and banner as alights the screaming lanner."

MOOLVEE
(a) A Mohammedan doctor of the law. In India, a complimentary designation among Mohammedans for a teacher of Arabic, or a learned man generally. From the Urdū *mulvī*. "Though there was no organised body of clergy, there was a class (called mulvees or mullahs) from which judges, lawyers, and ministers of religion were taken."

LATHEE
(a) A long, heavy stick, usually of bamboo and bound with iron. From the Hindi *lathī*. "A man's body found in a nullah, killed by a sickle or lathee (heavy stick)."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Nxf7! Rxf7 2 Qg6+ Kf8 3 Rd8+ Ke7 and now White can win in various ways, the quickest being 4 Rd1 and mate soon follows.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Leicester dare not slip

TEN days after Joel Stransky removed Gloucester from the Pilkington Cup, the West Country club is faced yet again with the problem of how to close down the South African stand-off half when Leicester visit Kingsholm tonight in the Courage Clubs Championship (David Hands writes).

Stransky was suffering from a dead leg at the weekend when Leicester played Orrell, so, with another significant league game against Bath to be played on Saturday, they are relieved to have him available. Leicester, however, will be without two other leading players. Will Greenwood and Austin Healey, who are injured, as they continue their pursuit of Wasps for the title.

☐ Cricket: India did their best to inject interest into the rain-ruined fourth Test match against West Indies in St John's, Antigua by reducing West Indies to 62 for three at lunch on the fourth day after Courtney Walsh had won the toss and decided to bat.

☐ A brilliant innings of 134 by Aravinda de Silva helped Sri Lanka to 251 for seven and a 51-run win over Sri Lanka that booked their place in the Sharjah Cup final yesterday.

Boxing: David Starie, 22, of Bury St Edmunds, makes his move tonight to join the top men in the British super-middleweight division when he meets Sam Storey, of Belfast, at York Hall, Bethnal Green for the British title vacated by Joe Calzaghe.

0171-782 7344

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

ROOK ADVERTISING LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Colin G Wiseman of Moore Stephens Booth White, 1 Snow Hill, London, EC1A 2SN was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 2nd April 1997.
Creditors are required, on or before 16th May 1997 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts to the Liquidator and if so required by notice in writing from the Liquidator are to come in and prove their debts, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 3rd day of April 1997
COLIN G. WISEMAN
Liquidator

This notice is in substitution for that which appeared in the Times on 12 February 1997

DELTA SYNERGISTICS SERVICES LTD
Registered Number: 2529211
Trading names: Delta
Nature of Business: Supplier of security services and provision of crime prevention and protection services.
Trade classification: 46
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 31 January 1997
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): National Westminster Bank Plc
Geoffrey Stuart Kinlan and Peter Richard Copp, joint Administrative Receivers (office holder no(s) 8268 and 1788) of BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA

Mango Fashions Limited
t/a Junior Belle
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 18th April 1997 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 of the said Act.
It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators remuneration, however the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.
A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 563, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
DATED THIS 1st April 1997
Nuwazn B Issacs - Director

This notice is in substitution for that which appeared on 12 February 1997.

CAFE FRANCAIS LIMITED
Registered Number: 1758908
Nature of Business: Restaurants
Trade Classification: 49
Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 4 February 1997
Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Barclays Bank Plc
Peter Richard Copp and Geoffrey Stuart Kinlan, Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder no(s) 1788/01 and 8268/01) of BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA

Notice of Appeal for Heirs
The following person died in Zurich, Switzerland on 18 February 1996:
Nicolas Berisoff-Kaupp, a Serbian citizen born on 16 May 1906 in Birzai, Lithuania. He was the son of Nicolas Berisoff and Susanna Berisoyve née Schaeffler, and resided at Dufourstr. 185, 8008 Zurich, Switzerland.
The following persons are requested to give notification of their interest in the estate:
1. apart from his daughter Svetlana Berisoyve, born 24 September 1932, any further descendants from his first marriage to Marija Mesaktaite;
2. any descendants from his second marriage to Adeline Jeanne Rosalie Truschi;
3. any descendants from his third marriage to Dzeta Elsa Karupp;
4. any illegitimate descendants.
The persons to whom this appeal is addressed are hereby requested to notify the Court mentioned below within one year of the date of publication of this notice of appeal for heirs, enclosing documentary evidence of their rights of succession; if they fail to do so their rights against the estate will be disregarded.
Zurich, 27 February 1997
District Court of Zurich
Judge for Estates and Succession
Dr R Weber
Kanzleistrasse 12
Postfach
CH-8026 Zurich
Switzerland

THE STORES LIMITED
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of Creditors of the above named company will be held at The Lascelles Lodge Hotel, Prescot Road, Upholland, Nr Wigan WN8 0PU on the 14th April 1997 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Kidsons Impey, Spectrum House, 20-26 Cursitor Street, London EC4A 1HY on the two business days falling next before the day of the meeting. Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge a full statement of account (proof of debt) and (unless attending in person) a proxy at Kidsons Impey, Spectrum House, 20-26 Cursitor Street, London EC4A 1HY no later than 12.00 noon on Tuesday 15th April 1997. Secured creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the meeting.
Dated this 1st day of April 1997
By Order of the Board
Mr I. Kenwright, Director

Interwity (East) Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 18th April 1997 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq.
It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators remuneration, however the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.
A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 563, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
DATED THIS 1st April 1997
C Shamir - Director

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-680 6878 OR FAX:0171-481 9313
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

John Hopkins on the major obstacle to Briton's ambitions

Faldo must master putting flaw

Late on the Saturday afternoon of the Players Championship, only two golfers were left on the putting green. Greg Norman was one. The other, who kept well away and was intent on his own practice, was Nick Faldo.

A year ago, these men, who have won eight major championships between them, were the central figures as the sixtieth Masters came to its tumultuous conclusion. To win his third Masters, during which he three-putted only once, Faldo played what Peter Alliss describes as his finest competitive round. He converted Norman's six-stroke lead after 54 holes to a five-stroke victory of his own. It was one of the most sensational afternoons of golf seen at Bobby Jones's famous course.

Twelve months later, as they brushed up their putting at Jacksonville, Norman was unconcerned. "A little grease on a squeaky hinge usually fixes it up," he said. For Faldo, however, putting was a worry — again.

Of all the competitors at the Players Championship last month, Faldo was the second most accurate driver and the best at hitting greens in the required number of strokes. He was only the 64th best



Faldo's frustration on the greens surfaces at the Open Championship last July. Photograph: Ian Stewart

MASTERS 97

putter, however. Often he concludes a round complaining, as he did after his second round at Jacksonville: "I have played a lot of good golf. I must have had 20 good chances in 36 holes and took hardly any of them. My putting is killing me."

Faldo can control his drives and judge his shots to the green with so much accuracy that the emphasis has switched to his putting. As he has become more accurate in controlling the rhythms of his long game, so he has become less successful on the greens.

"Nick does hit some weak putts," David Leadbetter, who has helped Faldo to remodel his swing, said. "Sometimes he has too long a stroke and decelerates, and when he hits a bad putt he tends to pull it. A lot of times, he won't trust his instincts and frustrations creep in. He has to focus on the strike, to feel the ball on the face of the putter."

Much of the time that Faldo spent with Leadbetter last week was given over to putting. "His long game is a case of 'hey, that's good, let's hit the putting green'," Leadbetter said. "He has been experimenting with a new putting grip — putting his index finger of his left hand on top of the fingers of his right hand. We have tried other routines. A lot of it is psychological. Last year, I had him playing the course mentally before he left the practice ground. Putting *is* frustrating. It slaps you in the face all the time. How can you knock in a 30-footer one minute and miss a three-footer the next?"

In 1981, while practising for the Open at Royal St George's, Faldo said: "I want to know everything there is to know about this course. I want to think about it non-stop. I want to eat, sleep and drink it. I want to dream about it at night." Little has changed. Winning major championships is his lifetime's work and winning six since July 1987 has made him the dominant golfer over the past ten years. He and Nick Price are the only men to have won three major championships in the Nineties.

Yet a slight misconception has grown up around Faldo in major championships. Faldo is perceived to be "Steady Eddie", a reputation born when he had 18 pars in the fourth round of the 1987 Open. "Faldo is a 'hit it down the middle, get it on the green and hole the putt' sort of player," Brad Faxon, the American Ryder Cup player, said. "He does not make mistakes. He does not miss fairways as I do. When he's hot, he is very good. He is not going to mess up on crunch time too much."

The facts suggest otherwise. Faldo does make mistakes, perhaps more often than he should and certainly more often than is realised. Look at his results in the four majors and the Players Championship in the Nineties:

1990: Joint-fifth after a first round of 71 in the US PGA, he then dropped 11 strokes in his next two rounds.

HOW THE SUPPOSEDLY STEADY FALDO IS ERRATIC IN THE BIG EVENTS

YEAR	EVENT	(PAR)	SCORES	POSITION
1990	US PGA Championship	(72)	71 75 80 69	=19
1991	Open	(70)	68 75 70 68	=17
1991	US PGA Championship	(72)	70 69 71 76	=16
1992	US Open	(72)	70 76 68 77	=4
1992	US PGA Championship	(71)	68 70 76 67	=2
1993	Masters	(72)	71 76 79 67	=39
1994	Masters	(72)	76 73 73 74	32
1994	Open	(70)	75 66 70 64	=8
1995	Players Championship	(72)	80 73	Missed cut
1995	US Open	(70)	72 68 79 72	=45

1991: Faldo squandered a good opening round of 68 in the Open with a horrible five-over-par 75 the next day. In the US PGA, he was near enough to John Daly after 54 holes to put pressure on the inexperienced American. He had a 76.

1992: A 70, a good start in the US Open, is followed by a 76, a very good third round of 68 by a 77. Just when he had a chance to strike for victory in the US PGA, he spoilt it with a five-over-par 76 in his third round.

1993: Second and third rounds of 76 and 79 ended his chances in the Masters.

1994: A 76 in the first round of the Masters, missed the cut in the US Open with rounds that totalled six over par and though a 75 in the first round of the Open was followed by three good rounds, there was still a difference of 11 strokes between his lowest and highest rounds.

1995: An 80, eight over par, in the first round of the Players Championship and a 79, nine over par, in the third round of the US Open after opening rounds of 72 and 68.

This is not how Faldo is supposed to play. Musketeers such as Severiano Ballesteros and Arnold Palmer had scores like this when they were at their best. It was part of their appeal. Faldo is supposed to be metronomic, like Byron Nelson.

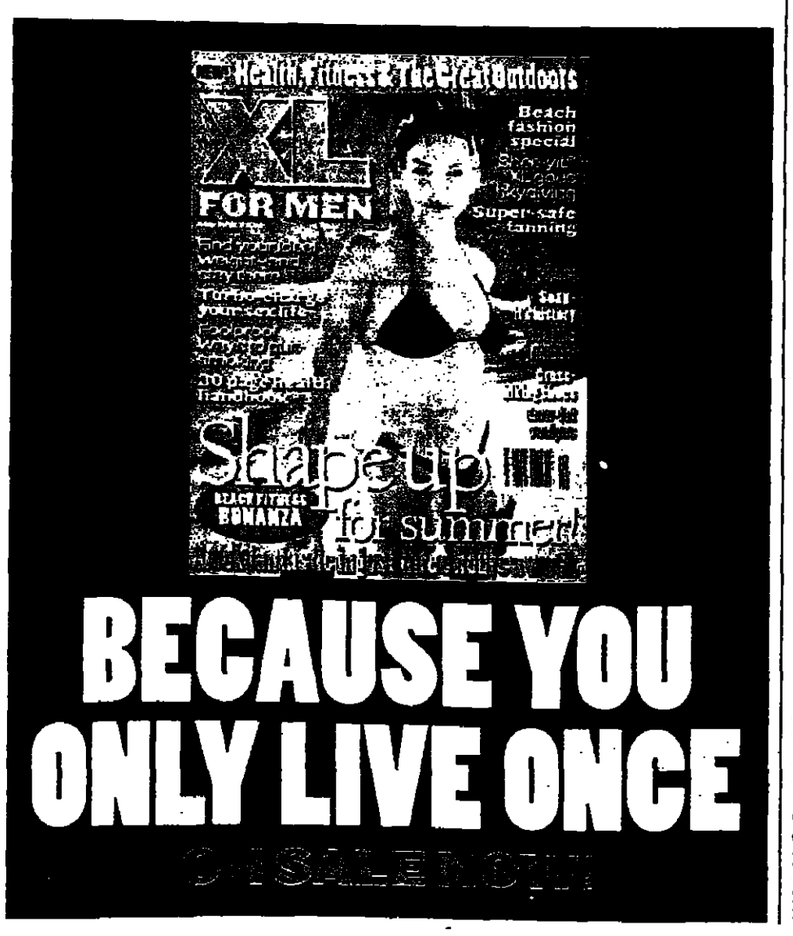
"Nick gets funny holes, like when he hit it up a tree at Pebble Beach and had a triple bogey at Baltusrol," Leadbetter said. "He loves to be in contention and when he is not, sometimes the fire goes out." These figures suggest that the fire can go out when he is in contention, too.

Faldo will be 40 in three months. He expects to remain competitive for some years yet. He is happy now that his private life seems to be sorting itself out and, as he has said: "You've got to be happy off the golf course to be happy on the golf course. It helps tremendously."

Little has pleased him so much lately as winning the Los Angeles Open at the end of February, because the course where he averaged 26 putts a round is nicknamed Hogan's Alley. Faldo reveres the memory of Ben Hogan. In his mind's eye, Faldo sees pictures of Hogan tying for first in the 1955 US Open when 42 and nearly winning in 1960 when he was 47. He thinks to himself: "I can do that."

Faldo needs no reminding that Jack Nicklaus won the US Open, US PGA and Masters after he was 40 and that when Sam Snead slipped on the winner's green jacket at the 1954 Masters, he was 41. One more major championship would give Faldo seven and only Nicklaus, Walter Hagen, Hogan, Gary Player and Tom Watson have more.

"I have never got bored or fed up with golf," Faldo said. "I feel I have learnt so much over the past five years that I want to keep playing. I have a great knowledge of the game. Now is the time to use it."



Sick men of Europe take different routes

FROM JOHN HOPKINS IN AUGUSTA

SCENE: the practice ground at Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia. Time: 9.30 yesterday morning. A gentle spring sun shines on three golfers practising hard. The bystander hopes it will improve their health, humour and golf. Once Masters champions, they are now, for different reasons, the sick golfers of Europe.

On the left, Severiano Ballesteros is attended by Butch Harmon, formerly Greg Norman's coach and now working with Tiger Woods. Ballesteros is depressed. He has missed the cut in all five tournaments he has entered this year and, for his ten competitive rounds, he is 30 over par. He withdrew from an event in New Orleans last week because of flu. The champion here in 1980 and 1983 now cuts a lonely, rather sad figure.

Next to Ballesteros is José María Olazábal, the 1994 champion, who has finished twelfth, fourth and first in his European events since February and seventh in New Orleans on Sunday. For these events, he is 41 under par. His driving is a little wild, his putting sometimes not so true, but he is categorised in the group because last year he missed the Masters because of suspected rheumatoid arthritis in his feet.

On the right is Sandy Lyle, the 1988 Masters champion, but a man who has been struggling to find any sustained form for some years. In due course, they leave the practice ground and, taking their putters, spend half an hour reacquainting themselves with the formidable speed and slopes of the putting surfaces they will shortly encounter. And then they walk the 25 yards to the 1st tee.

No matter how well Ballesteros and Lyle seem to strike the ball in practice, it is different the moment they reach the course. Sure enough, Ballesteros's first drive soars away to the right, clattering among spectators. He takes another and leaves it well short of a bunker on the right. On the 2nd hole, the stroke is similar. Ballesteros, once again, is all over the place.

Lyle is not much better. His tee shot ends in the bunker and he bangs his club on the ground in frustration. Only Olazábal looks in good form. His drive bisects the fairway, his second ends ten feet from the flag.

This is how the week of the 61st Masters began for the sick men of Europe. How will it end?

TELEVISION CHOICE

Battle of the vegetable plot

Wild Britain: How Does Your Garden Grow?
Channel 4, 8.00pm

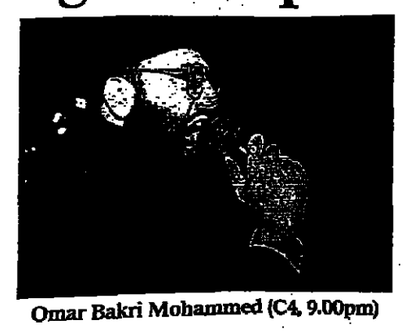
Although this is a natural history series, tonight's programme will be of equal interest to gardeners and particularly those trying to sustain a vegetable plot against the ravages of pests. Thanks to modern photography these destroyers can not only be identified but blown up to several times their normal size. Slugs, snails, aphids, root-flies and weevils are all revealed in monstrous close-up. The story is not all one way. In similarly impressive detail, the film features the gardener's friends. It shows slow worms devouring slugs, ladybirds tucking into blackfly and hedgehogs eating snails. The commentary is forced to admit that the pests greatly outnumber their destroyers. But it still argues against using chemicals, which kill the useful insects as well as the pests.

Murder One
BBC2, 9.00pm

It gets complicated when the same show is playing on different channels, particularly when it is at different stages. Anybody who has been following *Murder One* on Sky since the beginning of the year will hardly want to start all over again on BBC2. But for newcomers the second helping of Steven Bochko's marathon trawl through the American legal system should prove just as watchable as the first. Ted Hoffman of the bald head has gone but most of the other characters return and the show has a new lawyer hero, played by Anthony La Paglia. His first job is to defend a blousy young woman charged with murdering the Governor of California and his mistress. For those who found one case spread over 23 episodes a shade wearying last time will be glad to know that in the new series three cases are jostling for attention.

Witness: Tottenham Ayatollah
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Omar Bakri Mohammed is Britain's leading Islamic fundamentalist. He has called for a holy war against the United Kingdom and has promised that homosexuals, adulterers and fornicators will be stoned to death. He is not very keen on Jews, either, which is why it is surprising that he allowed Jon Ronson of that faith to make a film about him. But despite his extreme views Omar has a certain charm and the two men strike up a guarded rapport. Ronson even finds himself acting as Omar's chauffeur. Although the camera crew follows him over a year it is hard to know how seriously Omar should be taken. Many feel outraged that he preaches terror and revolution while living off social security. But when he calls for the immediate arrest of the Spice Girls, he seems more buffoon than a serious threat to the state.



Omar Bakri Mohammed (C4, 9.00pm)

Network First: The Chicken Trade
ITV, 10.40pm

The programme is being completed too close to transmission to be seen in advance and in any case the sensitive nature of the material has made the production company, Granada, reluctant to release many details in advance. But the subject, paedophilia and child pornography, is not only horribly topical but deserves the sort of exposure that a responsible television documentary can give. The film highlights British paedophiles who prey on homeless and vulnerable children and follows a trail that leads from the streets of London to the brothels of Amsterdam. It confronts men who deal in child pornography and shows how young boys are recruited into prostitution. Victims and relatives describe their ordeals and there are interviews with police officers whose job is to catch the perpetrators.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

National Service: The Best Years of their Lives
Radio 2, 9.30pm

For the darker side of the two-year spell of National Service which conscripts had to endure between 1949 and 1960, you had to watch last week's *Army of Innocents* on BBC1. In that documentary, there was little to choose between the blood and guts of the Korean war and the monstrous barrack-square tyranny of the Regimental Sergeant Major. In Radio 2's account of the National Service years, presented by ex-Private 22157741 Leslie Thomas, author of *The Virgin Soldiers* there is the odd reminder of the terrors of the parade ground and the warfront, but essentially, these reminiscences by former National Service squaddies such as Michael Aspel and Henry Cooper are of the lighthearted variety.

Composer of the Week: Rosza
Radio 3, Noon

Miklos Rosza, Hungarian by birth but international by design, is a name spoken with respect, almost awe, by anyone able to rattle off a list of the good films that were made even better by his musical scores. Some of these are being presented by Roderic Dunnett in *Composer of the Week*. Today's selection includes his music for *The Lost Weekend* and *The Naked City*. But there is a less well-known side to Rosza. He composed many works for the concert hall. Some, such as his *Spellbound Piano Concerto*, were film-inspired, however others were not. His choral work entitled *The Vanities of Life*, based on a passage from Ecclesiastes, does not deserve our neglect of it.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Kevin Greening **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Evening Session with Steve Lamacq **8.30** Digital Update **8.40** John Peel **10.30** Mary Anne Hobbs **1.00am** Claire Sturgess **4.00** Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast Show

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Alan Freeman A new series featuring choice cuts from the world of opera and popular classics **8.00** Nigel Ogden **9.00** Ip Dip Doo with Georgina Boyes **9.30** National Service: The Best Years of Their Lives. See Choice **10.30** Richard Allinson **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, includes Racing Preview **9.00** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.00pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.35** The Tuesday Match introduced by Simon Mann **10.00** Brian Hayes's Election Night **12.00** After Hours with Vincent Hanna **2.00am** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour **5.30am** Europe Today **7.15** World Today **7.30** Policy and Prejudice **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** My Generation **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** A Cry in the Dark **9.30** Everywoman **10.00** Business **10.15** Making of Hamlet **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Sport **11.30** On Screen **12.30pm** Policy and Prejudice **1.05** Business **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Health Matters **1.30** Sport **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack **4.05** Sport **4.15** A Cry in the Dark **4.30** Greenfield Collection **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.15** World Today **6.30** Science Update **6.45** Sport **7.30** One Planet **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** Megamix **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** Meridian **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Megamix **1.30** Farming World **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** Discovery **3.15** Sport **3.30** Meridian Live **4.05** Business **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **7.00** Mike Read **10.00** Henry Kelly **1.00pm** Concerto. Vaughan Williams (Concerto Grosso for String Orchestra); Xavar Scharwenka (Piano Concerto No 3 in C minor Op 80) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Classic Newsnight **7.30** Sonata. Bach, an Schumann (Violin Sonata No 2 in A minor BWV 1003) **8.00** Concert. Copland (Fanfare for the Common Man); Gershwin (Piano Concerto in F); Schoenberg (Verklarte Nacht Op 4) **10.00** Michael Mappin **2.00am** Concerto (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

6.30am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **6.00** Paul Coyte **(FM)** / Robin Banks **(AM) 10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Randal Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Corelli (Concerto Grosso in G minor, Op 6 No 8, Christmas); Tchaikovsky (Suite No 1 in D minor); Verdi (Ballet music, Macbeth); Mozart (Clarinet Concerto in A, K622); Liszt (Waltz on Two Motives from Donizetti's Lucia et Pansina); Palestrina (Miss Assumpta est Maria)

9.00 Morning Collection, with Penny Gore. Includes Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 3 in G); Haydn (Piano Trio in C, HXV 21); Loewe (Archibald Douglas); Copland (Suite, The Tender Land)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Piers Burton-Page Includes Haydn (Symphony No 49 in F minor, La Passione); Liszt (Feux Follets, Transcendental Studies); Janacek (In the Mist); Poulenc (Figure Humaine); Betsy Jolas (EA); Beethoven (Diabelli Variations, Op 120)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Rozsa. See Choice

1.00pm BBC Orchestras: The Romantic Piano. Piers Lane is the soloist in Glasgow-born Eugen d'Albert's Piano Concerto No 2 with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Martyn Brabbins Also the orchestral version of Liszt's Mephisto Waltz No 1 and Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony

2.25 Voices. The first of two programmes in which the Welsh tenor Dennis O'Neill performs songs by Vincenzo Bellini Accompanied by the pianist Ingrid Surgenor (r)

3.10 Sounding the Century: Rachmaninov. The BBC National Orchestra of Wales, under David Atherton, Rachmaninov (Symphony No 1 in D minor) (r)

4.00 Spirit of the Age. Bayan Northcott and Michelene Wandor look at the influences of Renaissance and Baroque music on Brahms's work (r)

5.00 Music Machine: Junk Week, with Luke Cresswell

5.15 In Tune, with Mairi Nicolson. Includes Shostakovich (A Spin Through Moscow); Beethoven (Variations on an Original Theme, Op 76); Debussy (Suite, Children's Corner)

7.30 Vienna Old and New. Nicola Heywood Thomas introduces the first of three concerts given last year at the Point in Cardiff Bay. Firebird, conducted by Barne Webb Kurt Schwertsik (Serenade for octet, Op 30, Twilight Music); Isang Yung (Octet); Schubert (Octet in F, D803)

9.10 The Undertaking. In the second of five programmes, the American poet Thomas Lynch talks about his work as an undertaker in a small town in Michigan

9.25 Bach from Rotterdam. Ton Koopman directs the Amsterdam Baroque Choir and Orchestra in four of Bach's church cantatas in a concert given in Rotterdam's De Doelen Hall

10.45 Night Waves. Richard Coles chairs a discussion on the life and writing of Primo Levi. Fellow writers and scientists talk about his fascination with the intersection of science and art

11.30 Composer of the Week: Amy Beach (r)

12.30am Jazz Notes. Digby Fairweather talks to the tenor saxophonist Bobby Wellins

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod. Includes **1.00** The Lindsay Quartet, Haydn (String Quartet in C, Op 50 No 2); Bartok (String Quartet No 2) **1.50** Thomas Murray plays organ music by Rameau, Bach, Handel and Mozart **3.00** Irina Pitnikova, piano, Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra, under Takao Ukigaya. Beethoven Piano Concerto No 1 in C); Fauré (Suite: Pelléas et Mélisande). Debussy (La Mer)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, Includes Thought for the Day

9.00 News 9.05 Call Robin Lustig. The topical phone-in chat show, call 0171-580 4444

10.00 News; Walston Goes Walkabout (FM). In the first of a new series, Oliver Walston travels with the reindeer-herders of Siberia

10.00 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW)

10.30 Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray

11.30 Medicine Now. A weekly look at the welfare state Presented by Geoff Watts

12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Lesley Riddoch

12.25pm Word of Mouth. Russell Davies explores words and the way we speak. Includes a look at the actor Hugh Walters as he coaches aspiring performers who are keen to preserve the art of speaking poetry (2/6) 12.55 Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Books and Company, with John Walsh Includes a look at the authorship of the James Bond novels, which has passed to three different writers since the death of Ian Fleming (5/8) (r)

2.30 Kiri. Dame Kiri Te Kanawa talks to June Knox-Mawer about her life and her music (r)

3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan. Includes Simon Townley reflecting on the pitfalls of being invited to be the party pianist

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Vaughan reads *Europa*, a new novel by Tim Parks and sees Mark Elder conduct the Berlioz opera *The Damnation of Faust*

4.45 Short Story: Kev and Me. Read by Sunny Ormonde

5.00 PM. Presented by Charlie Lee-Potter **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 No Commitments. The comedy by Simon Brett following the lives of three sisters. Starring Rosemary Leach, Nicola Pagett and Celia Imrie (4/6) (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 File On 4. In the first of a new series, Julian O'Halloran examines how much is known about the so-called "Gulf War Syndrome", after last month's criticism of the Ministry of Defence by a House of Commons Committee

8.00 Science Now. A weekly review of the latest discoveries and research in the scientific community. Presented by Anna Grayson (r)

8.30 The New Sexual Nature. Dr Gillian Rice explores our desire to find the perfect mate, something we share with the animal kingdom (2/4) (r)

9.00 In Touch. News and views for visually impaired people Presented by Peter White

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Go-Between. by L. P. Hartley Read by John Rowe (2/10) (r)

11.00 Mediumwave. A look at the week's media events with Vincent Hanna (r)

11.30 Plain Tales from the Rhododendrons. The second of a three-part series looking at life in Britain in the decade after the end of the Second World War (r)

12.00 News incl **12.27am** approx Weather

12.30am The Late Book: Going to Meet the Man, by James Baldwin. Read by Paul Winfield (2/2) (r)

12.48 Shipping Forecast

1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.8; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089.
Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

هكذا من الأصل

Debate? Vox pop beats soap box every time

REVIEW



Peter Barnard

One of the distinguishing marks of the electoral slugging match now being played out on television is that news and current affairs programmes are not very enlightening about the deeper issues. This is mainly the fault of politicians, who prefer scoring old points to exploring new ideas. Happily there is an alternative.

Documentary makers perform the valuable service of getting to grips with the consequences of policy, usually without the need to interview any politicians. Documentaries at their best show us the reality of societal change, reach beyond the sound bites and the statistics and cast a light in dark corners.

Two programmes on Channel 4 last night had more to say about two aspects of government policy over the past couple of decades than any number of *Newsnight* punch-ups or *Panorama* debates and they did so through the simple expedient of letting involved people speak for themselves.

The feistiest example was **Mrs Cohen's Money**, a new series presented by the Barbara Windsor soundalike, Bernice Cohen. She is what we have come to recognise as a television natural, all flattened vowels and waving arms. If you had to guess how Cohen made £250,000 in seven years, you might say she did it from a barrow in a London market. In fact she did it at a somewhat posher market, the London Stock Exchange.

Cohen lost her life savings a few years ago in a publishing venture that went belly up. She sold the family home to pay off debts and set about buying shares, having decided that the Thatcherite call for a share-owning democracy meant the likes of her, if it meant anyone.

Cohen would be quite interesting as an ordinary investor, but she is fascinating as an investment campaigner. She does not think much of the actual outcome of the 1980s rush to make shareholders of us all. She points out that most people who bought into the privatised utilities simply sold short-term and never returned to the market: only 25 per cent of share buyers went on to invest more widely.

Cohen and others believe that the Stock Exchange cares about looking after big companies, not small investors. Keith Large, a stores manager from Leicester, has turned £5,000 into £30,000 in five years. He says: "It doesn't matter whether you've been to Harrow or Hackney High. The stock market is for everybody. Don't ever believe these big boys in the City who say you need thousands to start with. The reason they tell you that is because they don't want you there."

Large and Cohen are self-taught: they bought books, they read the financial press. Hopefully future programmes in the series will make it clear that the stock market is high risk, but Cohen is undoubtedly right in making the core point that the stock market offers investors a far better potential return than the deposit accounts we are encouraged to use.

If wider share ownership is a political football from the previous decade, the National Health Service is one still very much in play, albeit scuffed and softened by crunching tackles. Channel 4 began a three-parter called **The Surgery** last night and very useful it is, too: politicians are so obsessed with patient throughput and other gobbledegook that it was a pleasant change to come upon doctors doctoring.

The Robert Darbishire Practice in Rusholme, Manchester, is unusual in that it is run by Manchester University and the doctors are paid a university salary rather than being partners. But the overwhelming impression from the opening programme was that dedicated GPs in inner city areas are fighting a battle in which the stakes grow larger but the armoury is shrinking.

Dr Aneez Esmail is the head of practice and he is under no illusions: "To believe that somehow as doctors we're going to make a difference is just crazy. We're just firefighting, we're just trying to hold the fires from spreading. That's how I see my job."

This may sound defeatist but it simply recognises the reality. On the wall of his surgery, Dr Esmail keeps the famous poem in which Berthold Brecht describes a poor man visiting his doctor with a chest infection caused by damp housing. The doctor gives the man a prescription but says that what he really needs is a prescription for a new house.

The abiding memory from last night's programme concerns one of the doctors taking a child with a bladder disorder to a hospital to have the child admitted. The reception area is deserted, the desk unmanned. A bell is rung, there is no response. There is a series of conversations via some sort of buzzer with somebody in another part of the hospital. Still nobody arrives. Eventually the doctor has to go to see another patient, leaving the boy and his father at the desk. They might still be standing there.

And so to the vexed question of removing wax from silver candlesticks. I know, it's a terrible worry. What you have to do is line a washing up bowl with foil, put crystals on the foil, mix with water and place the candlesticks... hang on a minute, I may have got that wrong, that may be the technique for cleaning silver cutlery.

***The Antiques Show* (BBC 2)** is a new series, presented by Francine Stock, which is full of useful tips. And I enjoyed the item on Bridget Beasley, who's filled every inch of her small cottage with, er, junk over the past 26 years. Her dog weighs 12 stone but has never broken anything. He should try harder.

6.00am Business Breakfast (33021)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (45779)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (8153427)
9.20 Style Challenge (3674392)
9.45 Kilroy (T) (2202040)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (80779)
11.00 News (T) regional news and weather (4752175)
11.05 The Really Useful Show (T) (9295866)
11.35 Change That (6619040)
12.00 News (T) regional new and weather (4429243)
12.05pm Call My Bluff *Panel game with Sandi* Toksvig and *Times* columnist Alan Coren, hosted by Bob Holness (5071972)
12.35 Good Living Presented by Jane Asher (9802243)
1.00 News (T) and weather (48866)
1.30 Regional News (50458175)
1.40 The Weather Show (39931663)
1.45 Neighbours (T) (61084773)
2.10 Quincy With Jack Klugman (r) (7766750)
3.00 Through the Keyhole Celebrity homes with guests Eve Pollard, *Times* columnist Alan Coren and Sian Lloyd (6359)
3.30 Mouse and Mole (9812934) **3.35** *Playdays* (6118224) **3.55** *Arthur*. New series (6110040) **4.20** Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (r) (T) (5393392) **4.35** Pirates (T) (7539243) **5.00** Newsround (T) (5280392)
5.10 The Lowdown Profile of ten-year-old, Romanian-born painter Alexandra Nechita, whose canvases sell for up to $100,000 (T) (3130773)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (176243)
6.00 News (T) and weather (427)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (779)
7.00 Holiday Jill Dando *returns to a childhood* holiday resort in west Somerset, Neil Morrissey goes to Jamaica, Fern Britton tries hot-air ballooning in Tuscany, Martin Bell checks out Croatia and John Holdsworth spends a bargain break in Picardy (T) (1040)
7.30 EastEnders Ian comes face to face with a ghost from his past and Tiffany is *relieved to finally hear good news from* Grant (T) (663)
8.00 Children's Hospital *A premature baby* born at home is rushed to the emergency ward suffering from breathing difficulties, while twin sisters with heart defects undergo surgery (T) (7088)
8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart Gary and Phoebe pay a visit to wartime Liverpool (T) (6595)
9.00 News (T) regional news and weather (5717)
10.00 Rich Deceiver Drama about an ordinary woman who has an extraordinary stroke of good fortune. With Lesley Dunlop, John McArdle, John Salthouse and David Yip (r) (T) (847330)
11.50 *Harry in Your Pocket* (1973) A comedy about a trio of professional pickpockets who embark on a crime spree in Seattle. With James Coburn, Michael Sarrazin and Walter Pidgeon. Directed by Bruce Geller (T) (225514)
1.30am Weather (5464064)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

6.00am Open University: Venice and Antwerp — Forms of Religion (2459953) **6.25** Wendepunkte (2478088) **6.50** *Composer and Audience: Tippett* and Sondheim (1075525) **7.15** See Hear Breakfast News (T) (8253866) **7.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (r) (T) (1337021) **7.55** Blue Peter (r) (T) (5829595) **8.20** Secret Life of Toys (r) (3321514) **8.35** The Raccoons (9057953) **9.00** Cartoon (2117359) **9.10** *Enchanted Tales* (r) (8875311) **10.00** Teletubbies (30359) **10.30** The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles (T) (1356682) **11.15** The Detectives (r) (T) (213327) **11.45** Cartoon (6260156) **12.00** See Hear (T) (95601) **12.30pm** Working Lunch (22243 **1.00** *Secret Life of Toys* (r) (95398430)
1.15 The Great Lie (1941, b/w) Oscar-winning FILM *drama, with Bette Davis, George Brent,* Mary Astor and Lucile Watson. A woman is grief-stricken by the disappearance of her husband. Directed by Edmund Goulding (26116779)
3.00 News (T) (7716040) **3.05** Campaign Roadshow (T) (9953175) **3.55** News (T) (6834224) **4.00** *Blockbusters* (6844601) **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (6854088)
4.55 Esther *Servants in the 1990s* (9913021)
5.30 Today's the Day (156)
6.00 *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* (r) (166392)
6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (187156)
7.10 The O Zone With Blur, Supergrass, Robbie Williams and The Charlatans (r) (560514)
7.30 From the Edge Election Special *Politicians field questions from disabled* voters. Last in series (205)
7.58 Video Nation Election Shorts (970137)
8.00 The House Detectives The architectural *experts visit Abbots Lodge in Ledbury,* Hereford and Worcester. Last in series (8330)
8.30 Food and Drink Three carnivores from Newcastle accept the challenge to spend a week as vegetarians (T) (4137)



New boy LaPaglia (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE Murder One New series of the legal drama. When former district attorney Jimmy Wyler joins *Hoffman and Associates as head of the* firm, he must defend a woman accused of murdering the governor of California. With Anthony LaPaglia (T) (6358243)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (76972)
11.30 The Kingdom (4/5) Surreal Danish hospital drama (113514)
12.25am Weather (3432199)
12.30 Learning Zone: Open University: *Diagrams* Solving difficult problems (59335) **1.00** Catalysts Against Pollution (56809) **1.30** Free Body Diagrams (79248) **2.00** Language Season. Doing business in Spain and Germany (49267) ***4.00 BBC Focus:*** *Using IT in GNVQ IT in* the classroom (15625) **4.30** Film Education (60002) **5.00** Inside Europe (13606) **5.30** Film Education (49471)

6.00am GMTV (6750088)
9.25 Chain Letters (T) (3682311)
9.55 Regional News (T) (2711798)
10.00 The Time, the Place (27885)
10.30 This Morning (T) (61171359)
12.20pm Regional News (T) (4425427)
12.30 News (T) (9898040)
12.54 HTV Crimestoppers (79414137) **12.55** Shortland Street (9813359) **1.25** Home and Away (64275934) **1.50** Afternoon Live (58939804) **2.20** Vanessa (T) (42519999) **2.50** Afternoon Live (3071330)
3.20 News (7723330)
3.25 Regional News (T) (7722601)
3.30 Potamus Park (r) (6269311) **3.40** Wizadora (r) (9827866) **3.50** Bimble's *Bucket* (T) (9816750) **4.00** Scooby Doo (r) (5308224) **4.15** Hey Arnold! (T) (8291682) **4.40** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (T) (8344682)
5.10 Bagdad Cafe (r) (1655311)
5.40 News (T) and weather (T) (319021)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (193446)
6.25 HTV Weather (206917)
6.30 HTV News (T) (175)
7.00 Emmerdale Chris drops a financial bombshell on Rachel (T) (3408)
7.30 30 The Learning Featuring a look at *modern apprenticeships at the Rover plant* in Swindon; a school in Taunton which promotes inclusive education for children with disabilities; a maths masterclass for Bristol secondary school pupils; and persuading teenagers not to drink and drive (T) (359)
8.00 The Bill Conway fears the worst when a teenager goes missing (T) (2156)
8.30 Loved by You *Kate persuades Michael* that they need a cleaning lady (T) (1663)



Mavers and Wickham (9.00pm)

9.00 Peak Practice Erica's commitment to the Beeches is tested by her treatment of a single-minded career woman, her stormy relationship with Andrew and an exciting job offer. With Gary Mavers and Saskia Wickham (T) (5935)
10.00 News (T) and weather (90156) **10.30** *Regional News* (T) (812243)
10.40 CHOICE Network First: The Boy Business *The British paedo-*philes who prey on homeless and vulnerable children (T) (996514)
11.40 Blockbuster Entertainment Awards 1997 Hosted by Vanessa Williams with guest presenters Brenda Blethyn, Dennis Hopper, Charles Bronson, Patrick Swayze and Gabriel Byrne (229330)
1.20 Dating the Enemy (4657719)
2.20 Stand and Deliver (5250118)
3.20 The Chart Show (r) (8677915)
4.20 Football Extra (r) (1230064)
5.00 Heirloom (r) (33460)
5.30 News (27227)

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (9813359)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1655311)
6.25-7.00 Central News (435205)
7.30-8.00 *Heart of the Country* (359)
1.20am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (7825880)
1.50 Film: The Chase (733606)
3.25 Football Extra (2552248)
4.10 Central Jobfinder '97 (1004538)
5.20 Asian Eye (2501151)

WESTCOUNTRY
As HTV West except:
12.55 Home and Away (2100682)
1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (70872682)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1655311)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (34088)
7.30-8.00 Animal Passions (359)

MERIDIAN
As HTV West except:
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1655311)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (595)
6.30-7.00 Michael Barry's Undiscovered Cooks (175)
7.30-8.00 Serve You Right Live (359)
5.00am Freescreen (33460)

ANGLIA
As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (9813359)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1655311)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (435205)
7.30-8.00 Homemaker (359)

S4C
Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (66359)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (61717)
9.00 Bewitched (77205)
9.30 Sister Sister (8735717)
9.55 Hangin' with Mr Cooper (7256205)
10.20 The Crystal Maze (7553576)
11.20 Earthworm Jim (4723021)
11.45 The Pink Panther (6255224)
12.00pm A Bit of Fiava (4412953)
12.05 *California Dreams* (9507205)
12.30 Ricki Lake (17311)
1.00 Slot Meithrin (93598458)
1.15 Pingu (14365283)
1.30 Film: The Little Colonel (65514)
3.00 Short Stories (9069)
3.30 Collectors' Lot (953)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (208)
4.30 A Cook on the Wild Side (972)
5.00 5 Pump (4514)
5.30 Countdown (224)
6.00 Newyddion (717175)
6.05 Heno (171224)
6.35 Bob Yn Ddau (701507)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (281595)
7.25 Glangwill (563972)
8.00 Eryri A'i Chriw (8458)
8.30 Newyddion (9205)
9.00 Ff Ff Ff Ff Ffeminist: Gair I Gall (922972)
9.45 Ethollad 97 (732885)
10.00 *Brookside* (737798)
10.35 *Dark Skies* (974392)
11.30 Caroline in the City (500156)
11.55 Midnight Special (424717)
1.25am-2.25 Hill Street Blues (1302642)

6.00am Sesame Street (66359) **7.00** The Big Breakfast (61717) **9.00** Bewitched (r) (T) (77205) **9.30** Sister Sister (r) (8735717) **9.55** Hangin' with Mr Cooper (r) (T) (7256205) **10.20** The Crystal Maze (r) (7553576) **11.20** *Earthworm Jim* (r) (7126408) **11.40** The Pink Panther (r) (6247205) **12.00** A Bit of Fiava (4412953) **12.05pm** California Dreams (r) (9507205) **12.30pm** Light Lunch (10137)
1.30 Pete Smith Specialties (32739066)
1.55 No Time for Tears (1957, b/w) with Anna FILM Neagle, George Baker and Sylvia Syms. Life in a large children's hospital. Cyril *Frankel directs* (T) (42930359)
3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (953) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (208) **4.30** Countdown (T) (972) **5.00** Ricki Lake (T) (4514) **5.30** Pet Rescue (r) (T) (224)
6.00 Friends The gang celebrate New Year (r) (T) (191088)
6.25 Ant and Dec Unzipped Gladiator Jet, Diane Youdale is among this week's guests (176779)
6.55 Fresh Pop (303309)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (939866)
7.50 Thatcher's Children (980514)



The snail wages war (8.00pm)

8.00 CHOICE Wild Britain: How Does Your Garden Grow? Nature's vegetable patch battleground with a legion of pests (T) (8458)
8.30 Brookside Max and Susannah try to hang on to Emily (T) (9205)
9.00 CHOICE Witness: Tottenham Ayatollah A year in the life of Omar Bakri Mohammed, Britain's foremost Islamic fundamentalist and *revolutionary* (T) (8427)
10.00 Daddy's Dyin' — Who's Got the Will? FILM (1990) A black comedy about a family of misfits returning home for the reading of their father's will. With Beau Bridges, Beverly d'Angelo and Judge Reinhold. Directed by Jack Fisk (856088)
11.45 Plasticine People: Palmy Days Animation (882791)
11.55 Midnight Special Discussion series presented by Vincent Hanna (424717)
1.25am The Lion Has Wings (1939, b/w) with FILM Merle Oberon and Ralph Richardson. A *Second World War propaganda film* focusing on the role of ordinary men and women and the RAF in the run-up to the outbreak of war. Directed by Michael Powell, Brian Desmond Hurst and Adrian Brunel (2308002)
2.50 Conquest of the Air (1936, b/w). A FILM *history of aviation. With Laurence Olivier,* directed by Alexander Korda (8465441)
4.00 Riders of the Dawn *Spanish family* saga. English subtitles (73118)
5.00 The Almost Complete History of the 20th Century General Haig's role in the First World War (r) (T) (7883606)
5.20-6.00 Backdate (r) (T) (4060625)

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5.20-6.00 Backdate (r) (T) (4060625)

6.00am *5 News Early* (7982408)
7.30 Havakazoo For pre-school children (2002866)
8.00 Adventures of the Bush Patrol (2620595)
8.30 Wideworld Second in the series exploring where the power lies within the Government of the United States (2629866)
9.00 Espresso Consumer magazine (5629717)
10.00 Exclusive (r) (6937866)
10.30 Hot Property (r) (T) (2632330)
11.00 Leeza Chat show (9869514)
11.50 Double Espresso (45433359)
12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Los Angeles-based soap (2623682)
12.30pm Family Affairs (r) (T) (9514798) **1.00** 5 News Update (92537934) **1.05** Sunset *Beach Sun and sand soap* (6639408) **2.00** 5's Company (7578773)
3.30 Black Market Baby (1977) with Linda FILM Purl, Desi Arnaz Jr and David Doyle. A drama about a young unmarried couple and their battle to keep their baby. Directed by Robert Day (4517137)
5.20 5's Company: Late Extra (14497243) **5.30** 100 Per Cent. The hostless game *show* (1579601)
6.00 Whittle Audience participation quiz (T) (1576514)
6.30 Family Affairs Continuing the Hart family *saga* (T) (1567866)
7.00 Exclusive Entertainment news (1477750)
7.30 Serengeti Safari A look at the lifestyle of the much-maligned hyena (T) (1556750)



Michael and Shakira Caine (8.00pm)

8.00 Fame and Fortune Following Michael and Shakira Caine as they build a penthouse apartment overlooking the marina at South Beach, Miami (1493798)
8.30 5 News presented by Kirsty Young and Rob Butler (1472205)
9.00 The Jigsaw Man (1984) with Michael FILM *Caine, Laurence Olivier and Susan* George. Cold War espionage drama about a British agent who defected to Russia and is then sent back to Britain by his new masters on one last mission. Directed by Terence Young (32104717)
10.50 Exclusive Extra (5384934)
11.00 The Jack Docherty Show Chat and comedy. The guests are Peter Stringfellow and Ben Elton (1640309)
11.40 The Comedy Store Arthur Smith talks to the venue's first host, Alexi Sayle. Clive Anderson reveals how he honed his *stand-up skills. While Sean Meo, Bill* Bailey, Curtis Walker and Ed Byrne ply their trade (2774972)
12.10am Live and Dangerous Sports magazine. Includes IndyCar action from Australia (63728183)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (6799373)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (5677354)

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (342427) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (19232) **10.00** Another World (95798) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (75934) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (58682) **1.00pm** Geraldo (67330) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (64330) **3.00** Jenny Jones (74156) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (53663) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (5885) **6.00** Real TV (1175) **6.30** Married — with Children (2427) **7.00** The Simpsons (8514) **7.30** M*A*S*H (1311) **8.00** Speed! (2934) **8.30** Real TV UK (1089) **9.00** Picket Fences (93779) **10.00** Unsolved Mysteries (96865) **11.00** Selina Scott Tonight (54392) **11.30** Star Trek: The Next Generation (91717) **12.30am** LAPD (21557) **1.00** Hit Mix (8536002)

SKY 2

7.00pm Superboy (4714069) **7.30** Superboy (3467866) **8.00** Xena: Warrior Princess (1839682) **9.00** Pacific Blue (1859446) **10.00** Malibu Shores (1829205) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (6344427) **12.00** Hit Mix (8495880)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Clean Slate (1994) (34408) **8.00 Mosquito Squadron (1968)** (55882) **10.00 Adolf Hitler: My Part in His Downfall (1972)** (40663) **12.00 High Time (1960)** (282311) **1.50pm Heart Like a Wheel (1983)** (49395595) **3.50 The Games (1970)** (832686) ***5.30 Dreamer (1979)*** (13750) **7.00 Clean Slate (1994)** (85311) **9.00 Twins (1988)** (99458) **11.00 Sirens (1994)** (892040) **12.35am PCU (1994)** (5990567) **2.00 Back to School (1986)** (515489) **3.40 Police Rescue (1994)** (44036660)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am You Were Never Lovelier (1942) (25750) **8.00 Escapade in Japan (1957)** (53224) **10.00 Detective Story (1951)** (48205) **12.00 Woman of Straw (1964)** (76175) **2.00pm Three Women (1977)** (68161224) **4.10 Escapade in Japan (1957)** (47970576) **6.00 Beauty and the Bandit (1994)** (11311) **7.30 Special Feature** (4021) **8.00 Blown Away (1994)** (49999) **10.00 A Low Down Dirty Shame (1994)** (4619134) **11.45 The Most Desired Man (1994)** (5064494) **1.20am Trapped in Space (1994)** (40136225) **2.50 Midsummer (1987)** (53926422) **5.05 Off on a Comet** (2835538)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm El Dorado (1967) (38278595) **8.10 Grease (1978)** (89021175) **10.00 Tequila Sunrise (1988)** (9105305) **12.00 Breakout (1975)** (96650641) **1.40am Friday the 13th (1980)** (71364222) **3.20-4.55 A Night at the Opera (1935)** (6094731)

TNT

9.00pm Operation Crossbow (1965) (68908866) **11.00 Dark Victory (1939)** (14836224) ***12.50am Mildred Pierce*** **(1945)** (92347408) **2.45-5.00 Operation Crossbow (1965)** (88569793)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (25853) **7.30** Tartan Extra (44088) **8.00** High 5 (46972) **8.30** Racing News (45243) **9.00** Sports Centre (36595) **9.30** *Aerobics Oz Style* (72885) **10.00** Spanish Football (52021) **12.00** Aerobics (56359) **12.30pm** Football: Leeds United v Blackburn Rovers (56359) **2.30** NBA Basketball (43446) **4.00** Mountain Bikes. Cactus Cup (9972) **4.30** Tartan Extra (5156) **4.59** Sports Centre (1956779) **5.00** Wrestling: Blast Off (7589) **6.00** Sports Centre (6021) **6.30** *Pool World Masters* (98175) **7.30** Hall of Fame — Salvatore Schillachi (6885) **8.00** Boxing: Storey v Starie — Live (48243) **10.00** Sports Centre (57088) **10.30** The Footballers' Football Show (48286) **11.30** NBA Basketball (69175) **1.00am** Pool (58489) **2.00** The Footballers' Football Show (28809) **3.00-3.30** Sports Centre (13731)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Sports Unlimited (57752934) **1.00pm** World of Speed and Beauty (50982685) **1.30** International Cricket — *Live* (94419048) **8.00-11.30** Cricket (75291779)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Rally Raid (39156) **8.00** NASCAR (92525) **9.00** Speed Skating (80382) **11.00** Rally Raid (67363) **11.30** Football (87663) **12.30pm** Sailing (78069) **1.00** Fun Sports (66224) **2.00** Football (41330) **4.00** Tractor Pulling (93205) **5.00** Motorcycling (15761) **6.00** Touring Car (86088) **7.00** Drag Racing (61566) **7.30** Lisa Boxing (11514) **9.30** Rally Raid (58205) **10.00** Football (47750) **11.30-12.30am** Equestrianism (24069)

UK GOLD

7.00am Telltubtack (1557798) **7.35** Neighbours (5128175) **8.00** Crossroads (31263992) **8.25** EastEnders (65675144) **8.00** The Bill (6184214) **9.30** Don't Wait Up (2002935) **10.00** Never the Twain (4209408) **10.30** The Sullivans (6489066) **11.00** Casualty (4156380) **12.00** Crossroads (27844458) **12.30pm** Neighbours (8402471) **1.00** EastEnders (8537311) **1.35** The Les Dawson Show (3617601) **2.20** The Mistress (8443885) **2.55** 'Allo 'Allo! (1988840) **3.30** The Bill (2279595) **4.00** All Creatures Great and Small (50330271) **5.00** Larry Grayson's Generation Game (30141514) **6.05** EastEnders (4955934) **6.40** Are You Being Served? (1860866) **7.20** Russ Abbot (4030585) **7.50** Bullseye (6169069) **8.20** In Sickness and in Health (8193427) **9.00** The Bill (5039205) **9.30** Boon (7965353) **10.35** Love Thy Neighbour (6485934) **11.10** The Best of Top of the Pops (9620934) **11.55 FILM: A Stitch in Time** (3837779) **1.30am** The Legendary Norman Wisdom (7106354) **2.30** Shopping at Night (8704489)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Krypton Factor (5779427) **6.30** Gatweezle (2618834) **7.00** Coronation Street (4158175) **7.30** Families (4137662) **8.00** Surprise, Surprise (4979595) **9.00** The Professionals: (5788175) **10.00** Krypton Factor (2632514) **10.30** *Doctor in the* House (5896663) **11.00** Within These Walls (4146330) **12.00** Coronation Street (5819243) **12.30pm** Families (6669779) **1.00** Crown Court (4157446) **1.30** Good Life Guide (6651750) **2.00** This Year, Next Year (2633243) **3.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (3326514) **4.00** Surprise, Surprise (3307021) **5.00** *The Professionals* (5973069) **6.00** Families (2634589) **6.30** Coronation Street (2334381) **7.00** Surprise Surprise (1250205) **8.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (2269953) **9.00** Coronation Street (3303205) **9.30** *The Comedians* (6672343) **10.00-11.00** The Professionals (2559576)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Big Garage (9062972) **6.15** *Muppet Babies* (7810663) **6.40** The Care Bears (1357088) **7.05** Ralph S Mouse (6530330) **7.55** The Little Mermaid (1434311) **8.20** *Aladdin* (7337773) **8.45** Quack Pack (8476446) **9.10** Brand Spanking New Doug (3729330) **9.35** Mighty Ducks (2239311) **10.00** Goof Troop (8542137) **10.25** Darkwing Duck (6546576) **10.50** Timon and Pumbaa (3463798) **11.15** Bonkers (9281237) **11.45** The Little Mermaid (5368595) **12.10pm** Quack Attack (2287156) **12.40** Mouse Tracks (5097953) **1.10** Stick with Me Kid (1437750) **2.00 FILM: White Wolves** (68427) **3.30** Timon and Pumbaa (1215156) **3.40** Brand Spanking New Doug (1147917) **4.05** Goof Troop (1580886) **4.30** Quack Pack (9543408) **4.55** Aladdin (9535243) **5.20** Flash Forward (4918885) ***5.45 Timon and Pumbaa*** (424427) **6.00** Flash Forward (9175) **6.30** Bo, Meets World (7917) **7.00** Brotherly Love (7040) **7.30 FILM: Ernest Goes to School** (79798) **9.00** Dave's World (53601) **9.30-10.00** Golden Girls (39717)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Three Little Ghosts (1879779) **6.30** Inspector Gadget (7225178) **7.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (6335779) **7.30** Eagle Riders (6347514) **8.00** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (5773779) **8.30** Masked Rider (8765750) **9.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs (8799330) **9.30** Power Rangers Zeo (7628934) **10.00** *C Bear and Jamal* (7216427) **10.30** Eek! Stravaganza (6785514) **11.00** Life with Louie (6335866) **11.30** Eek! Stravaganza (6326695) **12.00** Incredible Hulk (8776866) **12.30pm** Mortal Kombat (7632750) **1.00** Highlander (6327750) **1.30** Eagle Riders (76310121) **2.00** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (4703953) **2.30** Masked Rider (3479601) **3.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs (4722089) **3.30** Power Rangers Zeo (3481446) ***4.00 C Bear*** and Jamal (3460963) **4.30** Eek! Stravaganza (3466137) **5.00** Spiderman (4794205) **5.30** Goosebumps (3480717) **6.00** Sweet Valley High (3470330) **6.30-7.00** *Sweet Valley High* (3461682)

TCC

6.00am Road to Avonlea (62595) **7.00** Dennis the Menace (26866) **8.00** Batman (82798) **8.30** An Attack (61089) **9.00** Flash Gordon (65021) **9.30** Bobby's World (54381) ***10.00 Rainbow the Reindeer*** (13249) **10.30** Robinson Sucroe (61205) **11.00** Danger Mouse (46311) **11.30** Gravedale High (47040) **12.00** Oscar's Orchestra (85885) **12.30pm** Halfway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (12427) **1.00** By the Way of the Stars (29392) **1.30** Black Beauty (11798) **2.00** The Girl from Tomorrow (6798) **2.30** Ocean Odyssey (1392) **3.00** An Attack (5205) **3.30** Flash Gordon (3137) **4.00** Batman (5972) **4.30-5.00** The Big Dish (1156)

CARTOON NETWORK

Non-stop cartoons from **5.00am** to **9.00pm** Includes Tom and Jerry, Popeye and The Flintstones

NICKELODEON

6.00am *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles* (70088) **6.30** Count Duckula (92137) **7.00** Captain Simian and the Space Monkeys (23595) **7.30** Tales from the Crypkeeper (35330) **8.00** Bruno the Kid (44514) **8.30** Hey Arnold! (43885) **9.00** Rugrats (34137) **10.00** Aaahh! Real Monsters (16717) **10.30** Doug (23021) **11.00** Rocko's Modern Life (15427) **11.30** Bailey Kipper's Point of View (16156) **12.00** Henan and Ket (47601) **12.30pm** The Secret World of Alex Mack (74243) **1.00** Sister Sister (52866) **1.30** Moesha (73514) **2.00** Round the Twist (8514) **2.30** The Adventures of Pete and Pete (3934) **3.00** Stickin' Around (7021) **3.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (5779) **4.00** Moesha (7514) **4.30** Press Gang (4663) **5.30-7.00** *Doug* (8243)

TROUBLE

12.00 Heartbreak High (1452296) **1.00pm** Madison (4152576) **1.30** Sweet Valley High (1557840) **2.00** Hangtime (3697934) **2.30** California Dreams (2292446) **3.00** Byker Grove (3816069) **3.30** 9-2-5 (2264663) **4.00** *Sweet Valley High* (2283796) **4.30** Hangtime (2272682) **5.00** Saved by the Bell (3611514) **5.30** California Dreams (2263934) **6.00** Byker Grove (2293175) **6.30** Madison (2284427) **7.00-8.00** Heartbreak High (9564972)

BRAVO

8.00pm The New Twilight Zone (3617798) **9.00** The Burning Zone (9560156) **10.00** *Tour of Duty* (9563243) **11.00 FILM: The Toxic Avenger** (4122494) **1.00am** The Burning Zone (4360248) **2.00** Tour of Duty (93455557) **3.00 FILM: The Toxic Avenger: Part II** (4820731) **5.00** The New Twilight Zone (3390082) **5.30** The New Twilight Zone (8508335)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Entertainment UK (2330) **7.30** Roseanne (4427) **8.00** Roseanne (8750) **8.30** Monty Python's Flying Circus (7885) **9.00** Cheers (95663) **9.30** Cybill (61779) **10.00** *Fraser* (48330) **10.30** *It's Garry



EQUESTRIANISM 43
Shortage of funds puts Hickstead's future in doubt

SPORT

GOLF 46
Can Faldo master his putting in time for Augusta



Faultless display of front-running secures decisive victory in restaged Grand National

Lord Gyllene gallops into history

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

LORD GYLLENE made a symbolic statement for racing and the nation yesterday when he led from the front and refused to be headed or denied in the rescheduled Martell Grand National.

Watched by a surprisingly large crowd of 20,000, which included the Prime Minister and the Princess Royal, the New Zealand-bred nine-year-old showed enormous courage and stamina to become the first horse since Troytown in 1920 to make all the running in the 4½-mile race.

However, it was his jumping of Aintree's unique 30 fences that cemented the wide margin of victory. He did not make a semblance of an error and the only danger was provided by a loose horse that threatened to force Lord Gyllene out of the race at the water jump.

When Suny Bay made a costly error four fences from home, Lord Gyllene and Tony Dobbin were free to forge away from struggling rivals. At the line, he was 25 lengths clear of Suny Bay, with a further two lengths back to Camelot Knight, a 100-1 outsider. Buckboard Bounce, at 40-1, was fourth. Go Ballistic, who was sent off a 7-1 favourite, was pulled up two fences out, having nearly fallen at Valentine's on the second circuit.

The Grand National invariably produces a fairy-tale and Lord Gyllene's victory completes a rags-to-riches adventure for his owner, Stan Clarke, that offers hope to anyone who dreams of winning the world's greatest steeplechase.

Clarke, 63, is a multi-millionaire with all the trappings associated with such wealth. A member of the Jockey Club, he owns Uttoxeter and Newcastle racecourses, as well as a string of expensive racehorses. However, it was not always thus.

"I was a butcher's boy and went out and earned a living after my father became very ill when I was nine," he recalled in his moment of triumph. "At 15, I started an apprenticeship as a plumber."

After being turned down by the Army at the age of 21 due to his health record, Clarke became a plumber in the village of Barton-under-Needwood, where he still lives, and started up a business with £109. In 1987, he sold the company for £51 million. Meanwhile, he set up St Modwen, a property company, which is now valued at £100 million.

"I've been around in racing for 35 years — and this is a very exciting moment for me. Aintree has all the magic of National Hunt racing. It is the greatest race in the world."

Clarke gains particular pleasure from choosing his own horses, many of them from New Zealand, and Lord Gyllene reminded him of another Aintree legend when he first saw him on a video 18 months ago. "He reminded me so much of Red Rum. When Ginger McCain [the trainer of Red Rum] saw him, he told me I had a nice horse."

A keen eye for equine talent is matched by shrewd judgment of those who attempt to get the best out of horses. Steve Brookshaw, a point-to-point jockey since he was 14, first caught Clarke's attention as a rider before he went on to train hunters and point-to-pointers. However, the turning point came two years ago when Clarke persuaded him to take out a full licence and train at Uffington, near Shrewsbury.

Twelve months ago, Brookshaw sent out Rolling Ball to win the Foxhunters Chase over Aintree's National fences. The success with Lord Gyllene yesterday not only confirmed his ability as a trainer but helped to make up for the misfortune suffered by his uncle, Tim Brookshaw. In the 1959 Grand National, his leathers broke at Becher's on the second circuit and he finished second on Wyndburgh, behind Oxo.

"This is my second season as a trainer and I couldn't ask for anything better," he said. "I always thought Lord Gyllene would run very well because we know he stays the trip and he was carrying a lot less weight than in the Midlands National and the other trial he ran in. I take my hat off to all the management to be able to put it on because it was very disappointing not to do it on Saturday when the atmosphere was really buzzing."

Having touched down in front at the first fence, Lord Gyllene was shadowed by Suny Bay and Smith's Band for the first circuit, during which there was little change in the running order. Smith's Band fell fatally at the twentieth fence — Straight Talk was also killed, at the seventh — and Master Oats, the 1995 Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, briefly looked a threat before tiring.

And so Lord Gyllene became free to gallop into the history books. Not only did he succeed in the 150th running of the race; he won the most crucial Grand National of all time.



Lord Gyllene (No 10) clears the water jump during his courageous performance in the rescheduled 150th Grand National at Aintree yesterday. Photograph: Julian Herbert / Allsport

Relief at Aintree 1
Dobbin's delight 44
How they finished 44

NATIONAL DETAILS

1 LORD GYLLENE.. 14-1
2 Suny Bay..... 8-1
3 Camelot Knight... 100-1
4 Buckboard Bounce40-1

Nation's resolve unfettered by ring of steel around Aintree

Rob Hughes on the day that joy and determination were the real winners

It had to happen: the Grand National that the IRA threatened to bomb was won yesterday, 49¼ hours late, by a man called Dobbin, who hails from Downpatrick in Northern Ireland.

Tony Dobbin, 24 and with the appearance of an urchin schoolboy, led the 150th Grand National, the very first on a Monday, from start to finish and it was just coincidence that the horse, Lord Gyllene, has a name resonant of the Emerald Isle. Lord Gyllene is from New Zealand, that is where his stamina and his indifference to the wicked tamperings of this historic event were bred, and the name given to him at birth was described by his owner, Stan Clarke, as "an accident".

There were, mercifully, few accidents and no incidents on the day Aintree went open to the public. The crowd, maybe as many as 20,000, had perhaps been attracted by the curiosity, by the free entry, by the symbolic statement of the race itself, the statement summed up by the Prime Minister: "I think the whole British nation wished to see this race run, it is a message that nobody can bomb Britain out of our national instincts, our national habits. It is a clear message to the IRA."

The presence of the Prime Minister, arriving 40 minutes before the off in a red helicopter, and the return of Princess Anne, who had been swiftly spirited away on Saturday, denoted the togetherness with which the British wished to signal their determination to pursue the pleasures and the practices of life as our ancestors laid them down.

To be sure, the smell of leather came within a ring of steel; seldom, if ever, in this country has a sporting event been attended by so many armed police, by so much fear and loathing and political overtone. The joy of racing came despite the dread of disaster. And, in the event, the real sadness was the authentic chill that comes to many a National, the loss of two horses, Smith's Band and Straight Talk, fallers that died.

The droning of hooves along the 4½-mile track had to compete with the chatter of helicopter blades hovering watchfully above. Referring back to Saturday, Dobbin said: "It's just shameful, it makes you ashamed to admit you come from there [Ireland]." He shook his head, turned towards his girlfriend, Vicki, and repeated: "It just never should have happened."

It is a sure bet that he was not talking about his taking a place in the history of the world's most demanding steeplechase. Dobbin, like many in the sport, particularly the close-knit National Hunt variety, acquired his love of equine pursuit across the Irish Sea. Indeed, his mentor was Jonjo O'Neill, who instilled in Dobbin a thirst for victory and a relish of the good times.

Both fitted perfectly yesterday with the mood of Liverpool. The people queued in the streets outside, seven abreast and miles deep. Not all of them, by any means, were racing addicts. The truth was sweetly articulated by a young mother, clutching her two babies. "I was only going out shopping, and then I found this queue and I heard it was free," she said.

By the time her vigil was over and she joined the throng inside, much of yesterday's early oppression had dissipated. At 11am, there had been the atmosphere of a high security prison; at 2pm, the band of the 1st Battalion of the Gurkhas struck up: strange and slightly unnerving, the swirl of pipes trying to drum up atmosphere where it had expired on Saturday.

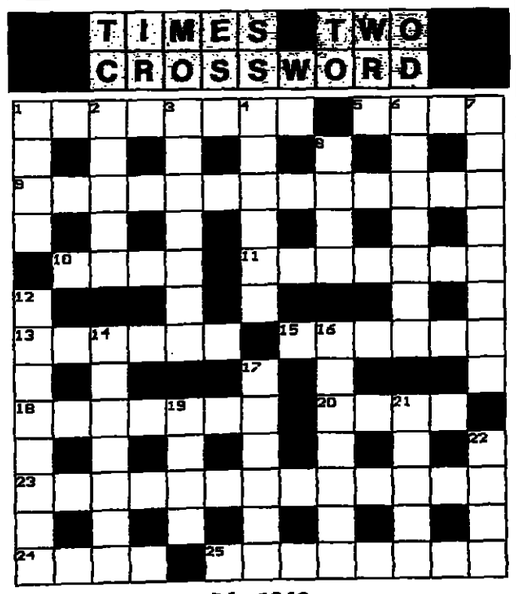
Around the pipers, the police were still completing their work, still sniffing around flowerpots and platforms, including that beneath the new bust of Peter O'Sullevan. Where his commentary had been closed down under emergency procedures, we now prayed for silence on the telephone into the police command centre.

In fact, Paul Stephenson, Assistant Chief Constable of Merseyside, admitted: "A number of calls have been received. They were evaluated and dealt with. I will not elaborate further, but we were not willing to compromise on the risk to anyone."

There had been two alerts in the morning, neither of them from the dreaded source. In truth, had a call come, indeed had there been ten warnings, Aintree's Grand National would have gone ahead yesterday at 5pm ... and, as a last contingency, every spectator in the stands, the Prime Minister and the Princess Royal among them, would have been evacuated to the turf inside the racetrack, such was the determination of all concerned.

The longest face was that of an on-course bookmaker who claims that his bag, containing £2,000 in banknotes, had disappeared between Saturday and Monday. The happiest? It was a toss-up between Dobbin, the jockey from Downpatrick, O'Sullevan, at last allowed a dignified final shout, and the bomb squad detectives, whose arduous work looked very much like wasted time. Oh, blessed waste, and blessed relief.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1062

ACROSS
1 Derision (8)
5 Philosopher; sounds like *insincere talk* (4)
9 One living in purchased house (5-8)
10 Group (of girls) (4)
11 Very last part (4-3)
13 A glass; stranger (6)
15 Follow (one) secretly (6)
18 Tell trustingly (7)
20 Wander at large (4)
23 From ages ago (4,3,2,4)
24 Swallow hard (4)
25 10^{12} (formerly 10^{18}) (8)

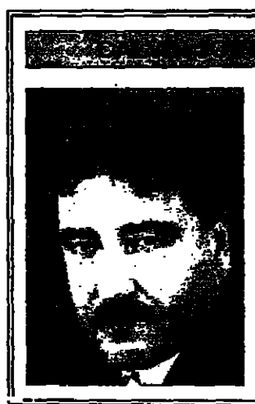
DOWN
1 Bird; castle (4)
2 Thick (5)
3 The *Sage of Chelsea* (7)
4 Find position of (6)
6 Liquorice-flavour plant (7)
7 Refuse; prepare bed for night (4,4)
8 Sacred Jap. mountain (4)
12 Label showing cost (5,3)
14 Least (*adj.*) (7)
16 Wounding (7)
17 Turn septic (6)
19 Orthodox sacred picture (4)
21 Defence of absence (5)
22 Paradise garden (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1061
ACROSS: 1 Cramped 5 Abut 9 Tapir 10 Boswell 11 Armistice Day 12 Benign 13 Monaco 16 Marseillaise 19 Kennedy 20 Baloo 21 Nowt 22 Pre-empt
DOWN: 1 Cite 2 Aspirin 3 Parking meter 4 Debate 6 Breed 7 Tally-ho 8 Psychobabble 12 Bumpkin 14 Absalom 15 Play up 17 Renew 18 Font

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Michael Calvin, one of the most respected voices in sports journalism, has left *The Daily Telegraph* to join *The Times*. Calvin, 39, who was voted sports reporter and sport journalist of 1993, will be covering motor racing and a range of other sports reflecting his wide interests. His first report will come from Argentina this week.

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